

PUBLIC DOCUMENT . . . . .

. . . . . No. 44.

SIXTEENTH REPORT

OF THE

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
COMMISSION

OF

MASSACHUSETTS.

1906.



BOSTON :

WRIGHT & POTTER PRINTING CO., STATE PRINTERS,

18 POST OFFICE SQUARE.

1906.

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FOURTEENTH REPORT

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STATE LIBRARY OF MASSACHUSETTS

DEC 31 1918

STATE HOUSE BOSTON

*Mass. officials*

APPROVED BY  
THE STATE BOARD OF PUBLICATION,

MASS. STATE  
TO  
BOSTON



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## MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION.

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C. B. TILLINGHAST, <i>Chairman</i> , Boston,	.	.	term expires 1910.
MRS. MABEL SIMPKINS AGASSIZ, Yarmouth,	.	term expires 1909.	
SAMUEL SWETT GREEN, Worcester,	.	.	term expires 1909.
DELORAINÉ P. COREY, Malden,	.	.	term expires 1908.
Miss E. P. SOHIER, <i>Secretary</i> , Beverly,	.	.	term expires 1907.



## REPORT OF THE COMMISSION.

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*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives.*

In accordance with the provisions of chapter 347 of the Acts of the year 1890, under which the Free Public Library Commission was organized, the commission herewith presents its sixteenth report, covering the calendar year 1905.

### THE COMMISSION.

Mr. C. B. Tillinghast has been reappointed for the full term of five years, and designated by the Governor as chairman.

### BOOKS FURNISHED TO LIBRARIES.

The towns of Alford, Egremont and Gill have each been supplied during the year with the full \$100 worth of books, under the provisions of chapter 233 of the Acts of 1900.

A first installment has been sent to the town of Lanesborough.

The second installment, completing in each case the amount allowed by law, has been supplied to the following towns:—

Berlin,	Hancock,	Pelham,
Charlemont,	Heath,	Plympton,
Chilmark,	Holland,	Prescott,
Dunstable,	Huntington,	Royalston,
East Longmeadow,	Middlefield,	Southwick,
Granby,	New Marlborough,	Tyringham,
Granville,	North Reading,	Warwick,
Greenwich,	Paxton,	Whately. — 24.

### TOWNS STILL ENTITLED TO BENEFIT UNDER THE LAW.

The full allowance of \$100 worth:—

Auburn,	Middleton,	Southampton,
Boylston,	Savoy,	Washington. — 8.
Clarksburg,	Shutesbury,	

The second allowance is due to the following towns:—

Brimfield,	Lanesborough,	Otis,
Dana,	Leyden,	Peru,
Gay Head,	Monterey,	Phillipston,
Goshen,	Montgomery,	Plainfield,
Halifax,	Mount Washington,	Sunderland,
Hawley,	New Ashford,	Tolland,
Lakeville,	New Braintree,	Tyngsborough. — 21.

#### TOWNS CLASSIFIED AS TO LIBRARIES.

The following classification of the towns, revised to date, shows the free library facilities they now enjoy:—

##### CLASS 1.

*Towns which have libraries owned and controlled by the town and free for circulation to all the people.*

Abington,	Brockton,	Dover,
Acushnet,	Brookfield,	Dracut,
Adams,	Brookline,	Dudley,
Agawam,	Burlington,	Dunstable,
Alford,	Cambridge,	East Bridgewater,
Amesbury,	Canton,	Eastham,
Andover,	Carlisle,	East Longmeadow,
Arlington,	Carver,	Edgartown,
Ashburnham,	Charlemont,	Egremont,
Ashby,	Charlton,	Erving,
Ashland,	Chelmsford,	Essex,
Athol,	Chelsea,	Everett,
Attleborough,	Chester,	Fall River,
Auburn,	Chesterfield,	Falmouth,
Avon,	Chicopee,	Fitchburg,
Bellingham,	Chilmark,	Florida,
Belmont,	Clarksburg,	Foxborough,
Berkley,	Clinton,	Framingham,
Berlin,	Cohasset,	Freetown,
Beverly,	Colrain,	Gay Head,
Blackstone,	Conway,	Gill,
Blandford,	Dalton,	Goshen,
Bolton,	Dana,	Gosnold,
Boston,	Dartmouth,	Granby,
Bourne,	Dedham,	Granville,
Boxborough,	Deerfield,	Greenfield,
Boylston,	Dennis,	Greenwich,
Bridgewater,	Dighton,	Groton,
Brimfield,	Douglas,	Groveland,

Hadley,	Merrimac,	Reading,
Halifax,	Middleborough,	Revere,
Hamilton,	Middlefield,	Richmond,
Hampden,	Middleton,	Rochester,
Hancock,	Milford,	Rockland,
Hanover,	Millbury,	Rockport,
Hanson,	Millis,	Rowe,
Hardwick,	Milton,	Rowley,
Harvard,	Monroe,	Royalston,
Hatfield,	Montague,	Russell,
Hawley,	Monterey,	Rutland,
Heath,	Montgomery,	Salisbury,
Holbrook,	Mount Washington,	Sandisfield,
Holden,	Nahant,	Sandwich,
Holland,	Natick,	Saugus,
Holliston,	Needham,	Savoy,
Hopedale,	New Ashford,	Seekonk,
Hubbardston,	New Bedford,	Sharon,
Hudson,	New Braintree,	Sheffield,
Hull,	Newburyport,	Shelburne,
Huntington,	New Marlborough,	Sherborn,
Hyde Park,	New Salem,	Shirley,
Kingston,	Newton,	Shrewsbury,
Lakeville,	Norfolk,	Shutesbury,
Lancaster,	North Adams,	Somerset,
Lanesborough,	Northampton,	Somerville,
Leicester,	North Andover,	Southampton,
Leominster,	North Attleborough,	Southborough,
Leverett,	Northborough,	Southbridge,
Leyden,	North Brookfield,	South Hadley,
Longmeadow,	Northfield,	Southwick,
Lowell,	North Reading,	Spencer,
Ludlow,	Norwood,	Sterling,
Lunenburg,	Oakham,	Stoneham,
Lynn,	Orange,	Stoughton,
Lynnfield,	Orleans,	Stow,
Manchester,	Otis,	Sturbridge,
Mansfield,	Oxford,	Sudbury,
Marblehead,	Paxton,	Sunderland,
Marlborough,	Peabody,	Sutton,
Marshfield,	Pelham,	Swampscott,
Mashpee,	Pepperell,	Swansea,
Mattapoisett,	Peru,	Taunton,
Maynard,	Phillipston,	Templeton,
Medfield,	Plainfield,	Tewksbury,
Medford,	Plympton,	Tolland,
Medway,	Prescott,	Topsfield,
Melrose,	Provincetown,	Townsend,
Mendon,	Quincy,	Truro,

Tyngsborough,	Wenham,	Whately,
Tyringham,	Westborough,	Whitman,
Upton,	West Boylston,	Wilbraham,
Uxbridge,	West Bridgewater,	Williamsburg,
Wakefield,	West Brookfield,	Williamstown,
Wales,	Westford,	Wilmington,
Walpole,	Westminster,	Winchendon,
Waltham,	West Newbury,	Winchester,
Warwick,	Weston,	Windsor,
Watertown,	Westport,	Winthrop,
Wayland,	West Springfield,	Worcester,
Webster,	West Stockbridge,	Wrentham. — 274.
Wellfleet,	Westwood,	
Wendell,	Weymouth,	

## CLASS 2.

*Towns which have free libraries in which the town has some representation in the management.*

Acton,	Franklin,	Methuen,
Ayer,	Georgetown,	Norton,
Barre,	Grafton,	Pembroke,
Bedford,	Haverhill,	Petersham,
Belchertown,	Hingham,	Pittsfield,
Bernardston,	Hinsdale,	Randolph,
Boxford,	Holyoke,	Salem,
Braintree,	Lawrence,	Springfield,
Concord,	Lenox,	Warren,
Cummington,	Lexington,	Westfield,
Danvers,	Lincoln,	Woburn. — 37.
Easthampton,	Littleton,	
Enfield,	Malden,	

## CLASS 3.

*Towns in which there are free libraries to which the town appropriates money, but is not represented in the management.*

Amherst,	Great Barrington,	Princeton,
Ashfield,	Harwich,	Scituate,
Brewster,	Lee,	Stockbridge,
Chatham,	Monson,	Tisbury,
Cheshire,	Nantucket,	Ware,
Cottage City,	Northbridge,	Wellesley,
Duxbury,	Palmer,	Westhampton,
Gardner,	Plymouth,	West Tisbury. — 24.



## CLASS 4.

*Towns in which there are free libraries which have no connection with the town.*

Barnstable,	Gloucester,	Rehoboth,
Becket,	Hopkinton,	Wareham,
Billerica,	Ipswich,	Worthington,
Buckland,	Marion,	Yarmouth. — 16.
Easton,	Norwell,	
Fairhaven,	Raynham,	

## CLASS 5.

*Towns which have the free use of public libraries in other places.*

Newbury,	. . . . .	Newburyport Public Library.
Washington,	. . . . .	Becket Athenæum. — 2.

## CLASS 6.

*Town having no free public library.*

Plainville.

## NOTES OF LIBRARY PROGRESS.

The following notes, collected from a large number of libraries, are worthy of careful study. They tell at first hand the story of the growth and progress of the free public libraries, and the spirit and sentiment which underlie the library system of Massachusetts.

ABINGTON. There was a gain of over 10 per cent. in the circulation of 1904. About 200 volumes have been received from the library of the late Rev. Jesse H. Jones.

ACUSHNET. A larger appropriation by the town has allowed an increased purchase of books, and the opening of the library twice a week, on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons. A reading room supplied with popular magazines and illustrated papers has been opened in connection with the main library, which is especially appreciated by the scholars and other young people of the village. Nature books are used by the pupils of the schools, as are books on other subjects, but no special effort has as yet been made to assist in school work. A building fund, which now amounts to over \$200, is the result of a loan exhibit and a lawn party. The circulation has largely increased.



ADAMS. The library and reading room are in excellent condition, both receiving increased patronage above former years. The use of the reading room has especially increased, and the interest in scientific periodicals has been particularly noticeable. The addition of valuable books for the reference room has realized good results, and the use of them by the pupils of the schools has decidedly increased. The selection of standard books has been carefully studied, and the problem of selecting works of fiction has been met with painstaking care. The teachers have co-operated heartily with the library authorities, and rendered the accomplishment of desired aims pleasant and satisfactory. Books are furnished to the eighth-grade schools to be used as supplementary material in the study of American history, geography and literature. Children of lower grades are assisted in the choice of books at the library, and the teachers require a list of books read from each pupil. During the summer months one hour in each week has been given to story-telling for younger children. This has been popular with the children, and it has proved to be as successful here as it has in other places. Eleven exhibitions have been given from the collections of the Library Art Club. Semiannual catalogues have been published, and a stereopticon has been purchased.

AGAWAM. All the records and books belonging to the branch at Mittineague were lost in the fire which destroyed the school-house in that village.

ALFORD. The increase in the circulation of 1904 is reported as being about 50 per cent. over that of the previous year, with every indication of further gains in the future. The branch at West Alford has been discontinued.

AMESBURY. The circulation of 1904 exceeded that of the preceding year by nearly 5,000 volumes, an increase of one-sixth. This was in part a result of the change, as mentioned in the report of last year, by which books are delivered during the afternoons and evenings of six days in the week. The library was closed during three weeks in December in consequence of an epidemic of scarlet fever. The use of books for reference during library hours has greatly increased, and the work for the year has been more helpful and successful than ever before. A bronze tablet has been placed in the children's room to the memory of the late James H. Davis, who was a teacher for many years, and librarian from 1856 to 1876.

ANDOVER. The trustees say: "The one new feature worthy of special notice is a gift from the trustees of Phillips Academy of a portion of the income of a fund established in his lifetime by Lieutenant-Governor Phillips. The object of this fund was said to be to provide for the free circulation of religious books among the inhabitants of Andover. It is intended that the books purchased with this gift shall be non-sectarian, but especially calculated to promote moral and religious culture. They will be distinguished by a book-plate, indicating their indebtedness to the Samuel Phillips Fund, but with this exception they will not differ from other books in general circulation." The home circulation of 1904 exceeded that of 1903, while the school deliveries increased over 70 per cent. A collection of stereoscopic views in the Cornell Art Room is a source of great interest to the young people. The will of the late Mrs. Helen G. Coburn of Boston, widow of George W. Coburn, contains a bequest of \$25,000 to be added to the permanent endowment fund of the memorial hall, the income to be used for the purposes of the library and the hall.

ARLINGTON. The circulation, which was reported as having fallen off in 1903, was materially increased in 1904, and the children's room has been better patronized than ever. The reading room at Arlington Heights is open on the afternoons and evenings of three days in each week. Teachers' cards are issued, on which books may be retained three months unless specially called for. Frequent exhibitions of the Library Art Club have been given.

ASHBY. Portraits of Edwin Chapman, the donor of the library building, and of Mrs. Chapman, have been placed in the reading room.

ASHFIELD. The Ashfield Library Association has delivery stations at South Ashfield, Baptist Corner and Spruce Corner, the service of which is gratuitous. "It is a work for the good of the public, and the only compensation is the gratitude of the people who are benefited. It is very much appreciated, as these districts are two, three and four miles from the village." Teachers of the high school have access to the library at all times, and all teachers may draw books for school use as they are needed.

ASHLAND. There was a good increase in the number of books delivered in 1904, although no books were delivered in May, while the library was being removed and arranged in its new

building. There was a gain in the delivery of books other than fiction, which was largely due to the work of the teachers, many of whom used the library constantly for study material, and co-operated heartily with the librarian in leading their pupils to instructive as well as interesting reading. The Browne charging system has proved simple and effective. "The open shelves, rendering the books directly accessible to those desiring books, have proved to be a great convenience, and this new feature constitutes an attraction to the library. The plan of open shelves is, however, somewhat experimental, and whether its operation shall continue depends no less upon the proper behavior of the persons who visit the library than upon the efficient discipline of the librarian. If occasionally a book shall disappear, as has been found to be the case in other libraries having open shelves, the benefit arising from admission to the shelves is accounted to be far in excess of the money value of a book now and then pilfered." Money for furniture and other items has been raised by entertainments and by liberal donations of money and materials.

ATHOL. The increase in circulation continues. The library is now open every week day. A collection of books, especially for teachers, which had been accumulated by the school department, has been moved to the library, where they are more accessible to the teachers. The trustees claim that "the Athol Library has, without doubt, the largest and best collection of books on education that can be found in any public library of its size." The trustees make a plea for local publications. The library has a complete set of the printed reports of the town, which probably could not be duplicated. "At one time complete files of the 'Transcript' and 'Chronicle,' lacking only two or three numbers, had been collected after much effort for the purpose of placing them in the town library, and but for the fact that the town refused the request of the library trustees for an appropriation of \$50 for binding, they would now be in the library; but owing to their not being bound, they were very unfortunately damaged by fire." Miss Mantie R. Hinman, who had charge of the library after the resignation of Mrs. Doane, resigned at the close of 1904 to enter Simmons College.

ATTLEBOROUGH. The fortnightly delivery of books in the outlying school districts is continued with increasing good results. The proposed fund of \$50,000 for the erection of a library



building is increasing, and it is confidently hoped that it will soon be secured. Miss Letitia Shove Allen died at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, March 21, 1905. She had been librarian since the spring of 1896, and was ever devoted and effective in her library work. The trustees, in adopting resolutions in recognition of her faithful service, added: "Believing that the influence of such a life in this community should be marked in some permanent form, be it further resolved that it will be our effort to create a fund, to be known as the Letitia S. Allen Fund, which may be used to provide some useful and permanent article in the new building, in which she took such a deep interest, as a memorial to her." Miss Martha Tyrie, formerly assistant in the Fall River Public Library, has been appointed to fill the vacancy.

**AVON.** This library has had a rapid growth, and needs larger quarters. To encourage an interchange of interests between the school and the library, the trustees have offered to present each year to one of the members of the graduating class a set of Shakespeare's works, subject to certain conditions. A list of topics is sent to the principal of the high school, from which a pupil may select any single subject upon which an essay may be written, upon the merits of which the trustees will make the award.

**AYER.** Miss May M. Fletcher, who had been librarian since 1897, resigned, to take effect April 1, 1905, and has been succeeded by Miss S. Adelaide Blood. The public schools use the library freely. In the spring of last year an attempt was made to beautify the library grounds by landscape gardening. Plans were made which would require two years to execute. A part of the work has been completed.

**BARNSTABLE.** Hyannis Free Public Library. This library has received a gift of \$100 for the purchase of books. A card catalogue has been completed.

**BARRE.** The open-shelf system is reported to be successful, and the patrons are urged to use the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the contents of the library. Steps have been taken to open a branch at Barre Plains, but, by reason of a change in the business of the person selected for librarian, its opening has been delayed.

**BELCHERTOWN.** A decrease in the population of the town during the past five years has caused a decrease in library patronage, but the circulation for the year ending May 1, 1905, showed a

gain over that of the preceding year. The open-shelf system is in use, and as a rule is popular, but there are people who prefer the old way. The use of the library by the schools is continually increasing, especially for reference work, and special effort is made to purchase such books as may be helpful for the pupils.

**BELLINGHAM.** The library has been moved from its former location in a private house to a convenient room in the Massey school building. Improvements have been made in furnishings, in the way of new bookcases, chairs and a reading table; and the circulation has nearly doubled since the removal. Books are delivered at four delivery stations. Pictures for exhibitions are loaned by the Woman's Education Association.

**BELMONT.** The home circulation increased 15 per cent. in 1904, and the number of books sent to the Waverley station showed an increase of 46 per cent. A new card catalogue is being made, using as a basis the cards of the Library of Congress. The children of the public schools are being helped to use the library more intelligently. Talks are given to the several classes of the high and grammar grades, explaining classifications, the use of the card catalogue, the various kinds of reference books and the special purpose of each. Teachers are allowed to take as many books at a time as they need. Thirteen exhibitions of the Library Art Club were given in 1904.

**BERNARDSTON.** Increased open hours, and acetylene gas in the place of kerosene lamps, were among the improvements of 1904. The purchasing committee and the librarian keep in close touch with the teachers and pupils of the public schools, and books have been added with especial view to school work. Special loans of reference books are made to the schools as they are needed.

**BEVERLY.** There was a slight increase in the circulation of 1904. That it was no larger is partly explained by the larger increase in the use of non-fiction, which is retained for a longer period, and the general prosperity, which allows less time for reading. Fifty-seven hundred and forty-six volumes of the Bodley Club books were issued, of which all but 5.34 per cent. were fiction. During the present year the Bodley Club subscription has been discontinued and the Booklovers' Library introduced. The latter is more convenient, and seems to be giving better satisfaction. The use of books in the reading room decreases constantly, owing to the poor accommodations; and a

complaint, common to many libraries in the State, is made that the shelves are full, and there is no room for more. A daily express service to the branch at Beverly Farms has been found to be of benefit, and the station at Centreville has been made a place of deposit. A number of mechanical books have been added, for the benefit of a new industry which has been established in the city. There are now seven schools having deposits of books, and the interest for better reading among the scholars is increasing. A collection of French books has been slightly enlarged and well read; and a few German and Spanish books have been bought, and more will be added when needed. The growth of interest in electricity, motors and machinery calls for technical books and periodicals, which are now liberally supplied. Work has been begun on a dictionary catalogue, which when completed will undoubtedly take precedence over the class catalogue, although the latter will be continued for those who prefer that system of classification.

**BOLTON.** The library, in its new building, has been placed in perfect condition. The books have been classified according to the Dewey system, and complete catalogues have been made. Twenty-five dollars towards the expense of cataloguing was given by Mrs. J. Wyman Jones. An improved system of book charging has been introduced.

**BOSTON.** By the increase of 1904 this library had in January, 1905, 201 agencies outside of the central library at which books were accessible. The additions were of the lesser class, known as deposit stations. "The increase of these deposit stations promotes the use of the library, and is favored by the trustees within reasonable limits. It is impossible, however, to satisfy all requests for expansion of the library system of stations. Even unavoidable changes and redistributions of these stations inevitably produce some discontent on the part of those who suffer inconvenience caused thereby." The purchases of fiction are still limited to books by authors of established reputation, or books of especial interest. Much of the current fiction is of ephemeral value, and the money of the city should be spent for books of more permanent worth. Little effort, therefore, is made to meet a demand for light fiction, which, if gratified, would readily absorb a large portion of the money available for the purchase of books. Of 597 volumes of English prose fiction received for examination in 1904, 129 titles were finally accepted. In connection with the purchase



and use of books in foreign languages, the librarian says: "A public library in an English-speaking community should not permit its foreign accessions to over-balance those in English, but the legitimate wants of scholars for representative works of the higher class in the different departments of foreign literature must be met so far as possible within limits that are inexorable; and there is a duty resting upon us of extending the influence of the library, as a civic institution, toward enlarging the life and broadening the intellectual outlook of those who have recently entered the ranks of American citizenship without preliminary training in the English tongue." Nearly 200,000 volumes in the central library and its branches are placed on open shelves, available for use by any visitor without formality. In common with collections where free access without supervision is allowed, this library has suffered from thefts, largely, apparently, by children. The report says: "In recent years the trend of library administration has been entirely in the direction of the open-shelf system. Although losses were expected and were deplored, it has been held that the advantages of open access more than compensated for them. Possibly it is too soon to determine results definitely, and it is obvious that a system may be excellent in a small library serving a homogeneous population, where nearly every borrower is personally known to the attendants, but not so well adapted to one supplying a city population, composed of diverse elements. It is a good thing to extend the knowledge of books, as may be done by means of open shelves; but perhaps we are incidentally promoting evils which cannot be offset by this desirable result. The pecuniary loss involved is far less important than the possible demoralization, especially of children, due to the ease with which books may be purloined without detection. They are not always taken with deliberate attempt to steal, however. Sometimes they are carried away thoughtlessly, without compliance with the rules as to charging, the borrower possibly intending to return them eventually. Sometimes they are returned as surreptitiously as they were taken. But this failure to conform to the reasonable requirements of the library, whether it be done thoughtlessly or wilfully, is in itself demoralizing, although not quite so culpable as theft. All theories must be tested by experience. I am not ready to condemn the open shelf, but it is unwise to fail to recognize its evils."



**BOURNE.** The trustees report prosperous conditions, with more interest manifested than ever before. Delivery stations, to which books are sent semi-monthly, are established at Sagamore, Monument Beach, Bournedale, Pocasset and Cataumet. A reading table at the central library is kept well supplied with magazines, which are freely used by young and old.

**BOXFORD.** Boxford Public Library. This library, which was established and conducted by an association, may now be classed as a free library, in which the town has some representation in the management, as the town now elects one of the seven trustees. The public interest in the library is good, and the circulation has somewhat increased. An effort is made to have the teachers of the schools make more use of the library for their pupils.

**BRAINTREE.** New steel stacks, in place of the old ones, have been put in a part of the building, giving shelf room for future growth. There is a delivery station at East Braintree, to which books are sent weekly. Teachers of the public schools may take ten books for school use, and retain them four weeks.

**BREWSTER.** Miss Emily Rowe resigned the librarianship in July, and Miss Alma Rogers was elected to fill the vacancy. By the will of the late Rev. Thomas Dawes, his collection of about 3,600 volumes has been given to the library. Pupils of the schools are allowed the use of as many books as they need.

**BRIDGEWATER.** A bequest of \$500 has been received from the estate of the late Miss Sarah T. Bates, a former trustee. The work with the schools has increased. Pictures and books without limit are sent to the high school, with the understanding that, if they are called for after one renewal, they shall be returned. The will of the late Mrs. Harriet M. Gilbert contains a bequest of \$5,000 for library purposes. This fund is to be known as the Caleb C. Gilbert Fund, in memory of her late husband.

**BRIMFIELD.** The circulation in the centre of the town was larger in 1904 than in the previous year, but not so many books were distributed in the outlying districts, on account of unavoidable circumstances, partly by the temporary suspension of the service at East Brimfield. Books have been constantly delivered from the railroad station at West Brimfield, the supply going by stage to Palmer, and from thence by the delivery team of a grocery store to its destination, making a journey of nearly thirteen miles to reach a station six miles from the central

library. Following a suggestion of the Free Public Library Commission, the librarian is collecting local historical matter with success. In relation to the commission she says: "In speaking of the State Library Commission, I must acknowledge its assistance. We have not only received gifts of books from the State through its agency, but have had the benefit of personal advice, and have been stimulated to progress by its recommendations and counsel." Miss Tarbell has written an interesting and helpful sketch of the origin, growth and present condition and work of this library, under the title of "A Village Library," which has been published by the Massachusetts Civic League, and reprinted by the A. L. A. Publishing Board. The new building has increased the enjoyment of the library as a social centre. Informal recitals, exhibitions, talks and gatherings are given from time to time, when people who can contribute to the advantages of the library in such ways are available. Notice of such occasions is given in the schools, and the attendance of teachers, pupils and townspeople has been very gratifying. "The principle on which this has been done is the importance of seizing all opportunities of making the public library a broad means of culture and an elevating social centre. In a small and remote town, where there are but few regular or permanent advantages, the occasional opportunities should be watched, and these may be of unusual value." Teachers may take such books as they may desire for themselves and pupils, and retain them for a reasonable time, there being no limit of number or time.

**BROCKTON.** An extract from the annual report of the trustees may well be considered by all trustees: "From the ample and rapidly growing literature of the book market, in the selection of new books our constant endeavor is to study and serve the best needs of the people; neither to indulge too largely in books costly and luxurious, nor, on the other hand, to rival cheap circulating libraries in supplying the frivolous and ephemeral. So far as possible we seek to elevate the standard, and cherish a taste for what is more substantial and of enduring value. Especially have we sought to supply the best popular literature of nature, art, travel, biography and history." In common with many others, this library is housed in quarters "crowded and outgrown, inadequate for both the reception and delivery of books." There has been an attempt during the past year to extend the work of the library through its branches and

the schools. An increasing number of volumes are being sent for delivery at the branches, and the circulation from these points has shown gratifying results. Two additional travelling libraries have been formed for circulation at the schools, and during the school year they have been constantly in use. The librarian has supplemented this work of extension by personal visits to the schools, and by short talks on the books in the travelling collection and upon the use of the library. A systematic attempt is being made to classify the library by the decimal system. Hardly more than a beginning has been made, but the work is being continued as rapidly as the regular work of the library will permit. Robert Kendall Shaw resigned the librarianship early in the year, and was succeeded by Frank Hayden Whitmore, late assistant librarian of Bowdoin College, who began active work at the library August 1. During the period of his service Mr. Shaw greatly strengthened and developed the work with the public schools. In the period following the resignation of Mr. Shaw the duties of administration were taken by the assistant librarian, Miss Clara A. Brett, whose acquaintance with the traditions and aims of the library, aside from her professional fitness, made this a most valuable service.

**BROOKLINE.** In common with many of the older libraries of the State, this library is suffering for lack of room in all its departments. Temporary expedients are nearly exhausted, and the procuring of a liberal enlargement or a new building cannot long be postponed. There are two stations where collections of books are kept. These are also delivery stations, but the great majority of books are taken from the collections, rather than from the central library. An assistant visits the stations regularly, selects books for them; and for the larger one she sends all over-due notices, as the work of managing that station would otherwise be too much for the employees of the store in which it is located. This method of daily supervision by a library employee has been found to be extremely satisfactory. The books on deposit are charged to the stations on book cards, on which is registered the number of times that each book is issued by the station, thus showing what classes of books have proved popular. Books are charged to borrowers at the stations by the Newark system, as at the main library. These stations are under the general charge of Miss Ethel J. Heath. This work is of a new kind to this



library, and much ingenuity and many experiments have been essential to its satisfactory accomplishment. In the evolution of the public library, delivery stations are becoming deposit stations, and deposit stations are changing to branch libraries. In Brookline one of the stations is in a drug store, and the other in a small supply store. The custodians perform all the work of care and charging; and, as the total circulation of these stations amounted to 19,188 volumes in 1904, we may with propriety class them as branch libraries. In November, 1904, the reading and reference rooms were opened on Sundays from 2 to 9 P.M., and so continued until May, with excellent results. The readers were mostly young people, and they not only came, but they stayed and read. The work of reclassifying and recataloguing, under a modified form of the decimal system, which has been in process for about four years, is practically finished. Miss Zaidee M. Brown, who has been in charge of the work, has furnished an estimate which is of interest to librarians who are contemplating a like work. The estimate, based on a class of books that represents a fair average, shows a cost of 19 cents per volume. Miss Brown says: "This estimate would probably be too low for a whole library, because it is based simply on work done with individual books, and there is much general planning to be done. But I presume fiction, unless it needed much mending, would cost less than this." Children twelve years old may have a card in the general library, which can be used in the children's room; and children under twelve years have a card in the children's room only. Besides the children's room, which is a reading room with a circulating department, there is a study room for grammar school children, which contains reference books which do not circulate, and nearly 3,500 volumes of supplementary reading on subjects studied in the grammar schools. This department is managed by the library with the advice of the superintendent of schools; and the school reference librarian is always present to assist children or teachers. Once yearly each class of the eighth and ninth grammar grades goes to the study room in school hours with its teacher. The school reference librarian gives a lesson to the eighth grade on title-page, copyright, index, contents, etc., and card catalogue; and to the ninth grade on common reference books. Photographs belonging to the general library, and sets of stereoscopic views of countries, with stereoscopes, are loaned as books.

CAMBRIDGE. The total circulation for 1904-05 has for the first time passed the 200,000 mark, the figures being 227,175, as against 192,356 for the previous year,—an increase of 34,819, and of about 18 per cent. The most notable increase was made by the travelling libraries. A new schedule of hours of circulation went into effect in March, by which the time has been extended two hours each day, from 9 A.M. to 9 P.M., instead of from 10 A.M. to 8 P.M., as heretofore. By making use of a system of relays, under the new schedule, none of the assistants are on duty more than three evenings each week, instead of four, as heretofore. During the summer months, from June 15 to September 15, the whole library was closed at 9 P.M., instead of 10 P.M., for the reading and reference rooms, as heretofore. The first of the "rotation lists," so called, was started in February, with history as the group chosen. Another attempt to meet the demand for recent fiction was made by placing on trial in November the special service offered by the Booklovers' Library of "40 books, exchangeable at the Boston office as often as desired, at a charge of \$10 a month." This trial has been satisfactory, and the service will be continued. The system of travelling libraries, begun last year, was extended to all twelve local stations, and beyond them to a private club of North Cambridge, called the Douglas Club. A travelling library of another kind, numbering 30 books, was purchased at the request of the State Federation of Women's Clubs and the local Anti-tuberculosis Association. Called the "Travelling Health Library," it is designed to aid in the local movement against the spread of consumption. This special collection is a duplicate of the one owned by the State Federation, which is being sent to various cities and towns throughout the State. A list of books comprising this health library was printed in the "Bulletin" for April, 1905, and a supplementary edition of 500 copies was printed in advance, for distribution at the meeting of the Cantabrigia Club, on April 5. The local stations have gained in importance, as being also depositories of the travelling libraries. Those stations that did well last year have shown consistent increases this year. Three stations, however, which have not been successful at any time since they were established, were discontinued in August, and two new ones were placed in October, with one more still to place. The circulation through the schools increased one-third, and the count

was made more accurate by a new charging system, based on the Newark system. An increase in the city appropriation made possible the purchase, at the beginning of the year, of a large number of new books for school use and for the children's room. A good collection of duplicates for school use is being formed and given a place at the end of the main stack, for the convenience of the staff and also of the teachers. With the additional supply of books it has been found practicable to extend the period of exchange from two weeks, as heretofore, to two months, — a relief that is appreciated by both the staff and the teachers, and at the same time is a saving in the wear and tear of the books, from less frequency of transportation by the carrier. A new departure was made by extending the school delivery service to private and parochial schools, a first installment of books having been sent out to the largest parochial school of the city early in November. Instead of formal talks before the children in the school halls, visits were made by the librarian to all the schools, and arrangements are being considered by which the pupils of the ninth grammar grade may come to the main library for special instruction, at such times as may be taken from the regular routine. In the children's room 6 sets of stereographs have been added, making in all 25 sets. Their popularity is undiminished. The work at the East Cambridge branch library has increased to such an extent that it has been found necessary to add another assistant for a part of the time. The bequest to the library of \$5,000, in accordance with the terms of the will of the late James A. Woolson, has this year become available, formal announcement of which was received by the trustees at the end of last year. The income of this fund has been devoted to the purchase of a special list of music scores, prepared by the librarian and submitted for approval, under the terms of the will, to the daughter of the donor, now wife of Dean Hurlbut of Harvard College. The income of the William E. Saunders Fund will henceforth be devoted to the purchase of books on local history, as well as to books on genealogy, as heretofore limited. The resignation of Alfred E. Thayer, after an excellent service of eight years, has created a vacancy which it will be hard to fill. Gratifying as has been the growth of the library from the outside, it has brought with it an increase of labor and responsibility on the part of the members of the staff. The pressure has borne most heavily upon the cata-



loguing department and upon the local delivery service. Another trained cataloguer is needed even more than last year, and a second attendant for all-day duty in the stack. In spite of these added burdens, the cataloguing department has completed the work most needed in the revision of the children's books. Much other work of revision, especially the recataloguing of a large collection of old books, which now can be found only in five separate alphabets in the old printed catalogues, will have to be indefinitely postponed.

CANTON. Residents of other towns have free use of the reading and reference rooms, and may take books from the library by a yearly payment of \$2. Books in the French and Spanish languages, placed in circulation in 1903, have been constantly called for, and it is intended to make additions to the collection. Stereoscopic views, accompanied by maps and guide books, have been purchased for the purpose of study. The use of the reading room has so increased that the tables will not at times accommodate the readers. It is intended to make all parts of the room available for reading by a rearrangement of lights. Elwyn A. Capen, who had been a member of the library board since 1884, died July 8, 1904. He was treasurer of the board for several years.

CARLISLE. The value of the library increases yearly. The book room was opened in 1904, and much good has resulted therefrom. Recent books and a few of the older ones are kept upon the counter accessible to the public. Magazines, of which a good supply is received, are allowed to circulate. Children of all ages form a majority of the patrons of the library. The historical room affords an interesting attraction. Some ancient documents, relating to the history of the town, have been given by Mr. Charles Forbush.

CARVER. William E. Savery, a prominent citizen who was always a warm friend of the library, left by will a bequest of \$500 to the "South Carver Public Library." There is a branch of the town library at South Carver, but no independent library with the title designated. A branch has been opened at West Carver. Teachers are allowed to keep books as long as they are needed, and the same privilege is allowed to the sick and aged. The librarian seeks to interest the people by reading with them and holding discussions upon the books read.

CHARLEMONT. The addition of the books of the late Hon. Joseph White, as mentioned in the report of last year, doubled the



size of this library and more than doubled its real value. The librarian writes: "We have been fortunate in our gifts and careful in our purchases. A strong effort has been made to present to our young people books so attractive that they shall hardly know how far they are being beguiled from the steady pursuit of the modern novel." This has proved to be the means of a step upward for many readers. The connection of the library with the schools and people of the distant sections of this valley town are well sustained, and made effectual by individual effort by means which are very good substitutes for branch libraries. In addition, many isolated farmhouses are reached by means of good-natured neighbors or the teachers of the outlying schools. Many families come considerable distances on Saturdays. The relations with the teachers and pupils of the village schools near the library are most cordial and intimate; and the librarian "thinks she could furnish a list of the grammar and intermediate pupils, with ages, grades and standing, without an error. On stormy Saturdays these youngest patrons never fail to appear, happy, quiet and interested, often remaining for hours."

**CHARLTON.** The Dexter Memorial Hall, presented to the town by William H. Dexter, and dedicated in February, 1904, contains a convenient room, well lighted, in which the library is now installed. The books have been recatalogued, and additions have been made to the supply of magazines for the reading table.

**CHELMSFORD.** North Chelmsford Library Association. More space is greatly needed, and the question of a new building, or an addition to the old one, is being considered. Especial privileges are given to the teachers and pupils of the public schools, and the library aims to aid them in every possible way. A semi-monthly delivery is maintained at West Chelmsford.

**Adams Library.** This library has a delivery station at South Chelmsford, where books are delivered fortnightly. This library is in continual touch with teachers and pupils, and special attention is given to procuring recent books in all classes that may be desirable in high and grammar school work.

**CHELSEA.** A new lighting system has been installed, and desirable improvements have been made in the building and grounds. The report says: "Great satisfaction is felt in reviewing the work of the year; for, while the circulation of 1904 is much less than that of 1903, still, it is larger than any other year, and the conditions under which the work was done being more

normal than those of 1903, we feel that the amount accomplished was better done and of greater value, and that it is really the library's best year. While a large circulation is much to be desired, that alone should not be the chief aim of library work, and a library's usefulness cannot be rightly estimated by large figures gained by sudden unusual conditions. That the reaction which always follows such conditions only lowered the figures to the second place on the records is a cause for congratulation, and proves that the library is steadily gaining in the interest and appreciation of its patrons." The card catalogue is nearly or quite completed, a consummation which has been much needed for the best interests of the library.

**CHESHIRE.** The library is now open on two days in the week instead of one, as formerly. A sale and entertainment in 1904 added nearly \$90 to the receipts of the library, and the town granted a larger appropriation in 1905. The ladies of the town have given \$93, the results of a fair held in August, as an addition to the book fund.

**CHESTER.** While the library is open to the general public on two days of the week, the teachers and pupils of the high school may have access to the books, for reference or to take away, at any time. This has proved to be helpful and convenient.

**CHILMARK.** The report made in February says: "Our library is becoming more and more a centre of interest, especially to our schools and summer visitors. Both schools have made extensive use of the books during the past year, and the teachers have encouraged the use of the books of reference. The magazines are very popular, and add greatly to the value of the library as a reading room. The young people are certainly taking an increasing interest in good literature, and the town cannot make a mistake in encouraging our useful library in every possible way."

**CLINTON.** The most prominent feature since the removal to the new building has been the opening of the children's room, with an independent charging department. All the books in this room are on open shelves. The age limit of fourteen years has been removed, and the borrowers of books from this room are mostly from the second to the seventh school grades, inclusive. The largely increased facilities for reference work and library study have been utilized by pupils of the higher grades in the schools, by the members of various literary societies and by individuals pursuing private researches. The

room devoted to newspapers is especially well used. The art department, which is supplementary to the regular work of the library, is thus far in an experimental stage of development. Collections of photographs and other pictorial reproductions of works of art and of natural scenery, bearing on some central theme, have been exhibited from month to month, and have been examined with interest.

**COLRAIN.** This is a library of about 2,000 volumes, kept at the home of the librarian. The circulation increases year by year. There are four branches where books are kept and exchanged about once in three months.

**DALTON.** The circulation for the year ending March 1, 1905, showed a gain of 30 per cent. Two books may be drawn at one time, but one of which may be fiction. The open-shelf plan has "worked admirably from the view point of both the public and the library staff." Books are reserved, upon application, during one library day. The charging system now in use allows a complete classified record of the circulation. The books of the Bodley Club Library are used, "meeting the demands for the more recent publications, particularly fiction." A card catalogue is nearly or quite completed. The work with the public schools is to assist the pupils in every possible way. This library is being reorganized and catalogued.

**DANVERS.** The delivery station at Putnamville has been discontinued, many of the larger borrowers having removed, and others preferring to visit the library and select from the open shelves. Residents of Danversport and Danvers Centre frequently express their appreciation of the delivery stations provided for them. A part of the borrowers in those villages also go to the library for the advantage of a better selection and the opportunity of reading the periodicals. An increased use of reference books is reported. During the school year much time is spent with pupils of nearly all grades, who come in large numbers for information on subjects many and varied. Books are sent to the public schools fortnightly, and a collection is sent to the high school for a month, or longer if desired. From grades below the high school classes or groups are sent to the library for information upon given subjects. Paper and pencils are furnished, and the work is usually done at the library. The age limit has been reduced from twelve years to eight years, and at times the number of children becoming borrowers as soon as eligible overtakes the supply of suitable



books. Two cards are given to borrowers, and during the months of July and August three books were allowed on each card, with the restriction that but one should be a seven-days book. A selection of old but good books has been kept upon an open shelf. By this means many books have been put into circulation which otherwise would not have been taken. The trustees call attention to the vital records of Massachusetts towns, which are sent to all public libraries in the State as they are issued, which, they say, "are invaluable to those having occasion to consult the records of those towns."

DEDHAM. The private library of a lady recently deceased, containing some valuable books, has been added to the library. Two books are allowed on one card, with satisfactory results; and the work with the schools, as formerly reported, is continued.

DOUGLAS. This library is prospering in its new building. A bequest of \$6,000 has been received by the will of the late James Smith, the income of which is to be used for the purchase of books. In October James M. Fairfield of Boston, the donor of the library building, placed in the hands of the trustees the sum of \$5,000 as an endowment fund. The income is to be used for the care and maintenance of the building and grounds, and any balance remaining may be used for the purchase of books. This gift and the Smith bequest will put the library on a nearly self-supporting basis. Miss Alice E. Luther, the librarian, died Dec. 5, 1905.

DOVER. Dover Town Library. The circulation of 1904 was the largest in the eleven years of the existence of the library.

Barden Library of the First Parish. In 1870 the First Parish purchased the title and rights of the old Proprietors' Library, and organized the Dover First Parish Library, with a full board of officers. The late Frederick Barden afterwards endowed it by a gift of \$1,000, the income of which is used for the purchase of books. The library then became known by its present name, and its books were made free to "the members of the First Parish and church attendants." By a recent vote of the trustees it has been made free to the patrons of the town library. The town library becomes responsible for the books, which it charges to its readers subject to its own rules: the Barden Library charging the town library and not the borrowers. The books are kept in the First Parish Church, and a card catalogue is kept at the town library. Care is

taken to avoid duplication between the two in purchasing books.

**DRACUT.** Delivery stations are maintained at Navy Yard Village, Collinsville and Kenwood, where books are delivered weekly. At the first two, magazines are kept, "for the purpose of reaching a greater number of people than would read magazines if they were retained at the library." The museum has many articles of domestic use in early days; and a collection of photographs of old houses in Dracut, with facts relating to the time of their erection, occupants, etc., is being made. Care is taken to provide books for the scholars of the public schools, and lists are prepared for posting in the schools.

**DUDLEY.** A globe has been purchased, to supplement the books of geographical reference. A printed book list has been issued for the first time.

**DUNSTABLE.** A gift of books and a handsome bookcase have been received from a resident of the town. Exhibits of pictures loaned by the Woman's Education Association have been received with much interest. The library occupies a room in the school building, and is freely used by the scholars. A special effort is made to select those books which will be helpful to this class of readers. The age limit is practically abolished, and children of the third and fourth grades are encouraged to take books.

**DUXBURY.** This library has a larger circulation, and is increasing in usefulness. A sewing society of ladies held a public hall and a small library, for which purposes it was incorporated. The membership having been reduced to five persons, the hall has been sold and the proceeds given to the Duxbury Free Library. The money thus received will be invested as the Duxbury Hall Fund, and the income will be used for the benefit of the library.

**EAST BRIDGEWATER.** This library continues to grow in value, the circulation of 1904 showing an increase over that of the previous year. The two-card system has been adopted. Recent books are placed in a case open to the public, and many valuable and interesting books, seldom called for from the catalogue, have been taken from the shelves and placed on a table, where they are accessible to the public. Thus many books have found interested readers, who have consulted the catalogue and never been attracted to the very book "they were so glad to read, not knowing it was in the library." Teachers

have free access to the shelves, and may take books which in any way aid in their work, and keep them as long as needed, unless called for by the public. Help is given children in the selection of books, the aim being to keep them interested, for each child who ceases to take books, "because he has read all the good ones," or "because there are no good ones," discourages another child, perhaps one who has thought of taking his first book.

**EASTHAM.** A portion of the income of the Robert C. Billings Fund has been expended in improving the library grounds. Teachers of the public schools may take as many books as they need for school use, and everything that can be done is done to make the library of benefit to the pupils. Exhibitions of the pictures of the Library Art Club are given monthly, and such books as are in the library relating to the subjects of the exhibitions are placed upon a table for reference.

**EASTHAMPTON.** This library is used in an increasing degree in connection with school work. Methods previously adopted for increasing the use of books other than fiction are still in use, and have the desired effect. A gift of \$100 has been received from the West Boylston Manufacturing Company. The reading room is well used, both by adults and children.

**EASTON.** This library has five delivery stations, to which books are sent weekly by the coaches which convey scholars from the outlying districts to the high school. This plan might be available in other towns. Assistance and encouragement are extended to the pupils of the school in their use of the library; and teachers may take twenty books for the use of the scholars, and retain them one month.

**ENFIELD.** In their appeal to the town for better facilities for the care and distribution of books, the directors of the association say: "We have spent money for bridges and cemeteries and for the poor and the needy, and these are matters of course; but we ought to do something for that which is supplying the mental food, keeping up good spirits, and giving the shut-in, the sick, the poor and the needy comfort which none could do well without."

**EVERETT.** Frederick E. Parlin Memorial Library. The circulation of 1904 showed a decrease in its total, with a slight increase in that of the children's department. The trustees say: "Far from being any indication of waning interest on the part of the public, it is simply the regular recurrence of a dimin-



ished demand for a particular service. A glance at the comparative statistics will show that every alternate year since 1898 has been an off year for the sort of library service there tabulated. No statistics can be produced on the library service in connection with reference work or collateral reading done at the library by students working up a special subject for a special occasion. It is readily seen that the greater the demand for such service the less will be the demand for service such as is epitomized in the table above referred to." In the children's room many of the visitors are readers who do not take out books and the seating capacity is entirely taken up during the winter.

Shute Memorial Library. The circulation of 1904 increased more than 11 per cent. over that of 1903, and there is a growing attendance in the reading rooms. Nearly every day the children's corner is filled to overflowing, and many of the little people are obliged to stand, owing to the lack of room for more chairs. A card catalogue is nearly completed. The librarian says: "It is one of our greatest endeavors to work well with the schools, and we have found that we have fully been repaid for all our efforts."

FAIRHAVEN. The age limit of eleven years has been modified by the provision "that persons under eleven years may enjoy library privileges upon recommendation of the superintendent or one of the principals of the public schools and with the approval of the librarian." The circulation of 1904 was the largest for nine years, excepting 1903. "In general the work of the library has gone on progressively. It is filling the place it should better than a year ago. Its staff has steadily increased in efficiency, and its collections of books in value and range, both for general and reference use; many questions can be answered now, and many subjects set forth, which a year ago were unprovided for. The card holders are more numerous, and, while the circulation has fallen off, the fact that the number of volumes in circulation at any one moment and the average number of days a volume is held have both increased show that actually more hours are spent in reading the library's books, and probably more thought given to what is read. In short, the community's reading seems to be in a healthier condition." The percentage of fiction delivered in 1904 showed the low rate of 58.6. The removal of the high delivery desk and the substitution of a table with a lower level has im-



proved the interior of the building and given a simpler effect, which is in the line of encouragement to readers. A more direct access to the shelves is appreciated by the public and library staff alike.

FALL RIVER. The circulation of 1904 was nearly 14 per cent. in excess of that of any previous year in the history of the library. It was noticed that during the stoppage of the mills, a period of over six months, the work of the library was greatly increased in all its departments. There was a marked gain in the attendance in the reference room, while the facilities of the reading room were constantly taxed to the utmost extent. The policy here is to increase the educational value of the library, and, while paying due regard to the recreation of readers in the selection of books, to emphasize in the highest degree the importance of purchasing books that shall add to the permanent value of the institution. The librarian, William R. Ballard, after many years of faithful service, died Nov. 30, 1905.

FALMOUTH. Falmouth Free Public Library. Early in the spring of the present year the librarian, Miss Clara S. Davis, died, after a faithful service of fifteen years. Miss Pamela F. Robbins has been appointed to fill the vacancy. The two-card system has been adopted, which has resulted in an increase in the circulation of non-fiction books, and free access to the shelves is allowed. Teachers are allowed special cards, and books taken for school use may be retained a reasonable time. The high school has made particular use of this opportunity. A finding list has been published.

West Falmouth Library. The books are now arranged by the Dewey system, and a card catalogue has been completed. In August a fair was held in the library building, which realized about \$140.

FITCHBURG. The new steel shelving mentioned in the report of last year was installed during the first half of the present year, through the generosity of Herbert I. Wallace, a trustee. In July a second gift came from the same source, in the shape of the valuable musical library of the late Francis H. Jenks of Boston. This collection consists of over 1,000 volumes of scores, including in some instances the only complete collections in this country of the works of some composers, with 400 volumes of musical literature and many manuscript compositions. Of more value than the scores themselves are the

annotations made by Mr. Jenks. These consist of brief histories of the various compositions, of data concerning their first production, and critiques upon the compositions and their performances by the most eminent European and American critics. There are collateral notes and information, all of which combine in making the gift a signal one. An eminent musical authority of Boston says of this collection: "Excepting the collections at Harvard College and in the Boston Public Library, there are none in this country finer than the library of Mr. Jenks." In the art department the photographs of the Library Art Club continue to be a source of interest. Through the kindness of the art section of the Woman's Club a special exhibit of paintings from the studio of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Woodbury of Boston was given in the main art gallery during the latter part of April. The travelling Health Library, owned by the Massachusetts Federation of Woman's Clubs, came in May. Its purpose is to encourage persons "to retain the health they have and to regain the health they may have lost." This loan was also in co-operation with the work of the local Woman's Club. John C. Dana's book binding exhibit was shown in the special exhibit room in October, and was studied with much interest by book binders, publishers, teachers and librarians of that section of the State. The delivery station at West Fitchburg was discontinued in 1904, but its establishment on broader lines as a deposit station is recommended by the librarian.

FLORIDA. Deposits of books are kept at the five schools, of which the teachers are custodians. The teachers also draw such books as they may need from the main library.

FOXBOROUGH. A much-needed work has been done in recataloguing the library. The services of an experienced cataloguer were obtained, and modern methods of classification and arrangement used.

FRAMINGHAM. The year 1904 was one of steady growth and service in the community. Before long the normal growth will require more shelf room. It is a problem which is facing many libraries. What shall be done in years to come with all the books which are steadily accumulating?

GARDNER. The continuous decrease in circulation which had continued for several years, as noticed in the report of last year, has ceased, and the number of books delivered in 1904 exceeded that of any former year in the history of the library.

Credit for this increase is given to the introduction of the Bodley Library books, of which about 3,500 were delivered in ten months. The reference work of the library is increasing, and it is hoped that it may be developed to a much greater degree of usefulness. By filing and rendering available the results of each day's research and experience, the resources of the library might be made more effective. The card catalogue, which has been in preparation for several years, has completed one stage, and that part relating to fiction is at the service of the public. It is the general experience of librarians that children are more expert in the use of the catalogue than adults, and it is hoped that parents will encourage them to avail themselves of this which is no unimportant factor in their mental development. In connection with the school libraries the children have been taught to keep lists of the books which they read, and in each school are awarded three degrees of honorable mention: (1) greatest variety of books read; (2) greatest number of books read; (3) neatness and systematic arrangement.

GEORGETOWN. The annual report covers the year ending Jan. 31, 1905. The trustees say: "The usefulness of the library was never more apparent than at the present time. In consequence of the policy adopted in recent years of purchasing more works of permanent value, of scientific and literary worth, and less of current fiction, the real value and usefulness of the library has been greatly enhanced. More persons resort to it for reference, consultation and study than in previous years; and in this way the library has become more of an educational force, and a stronger factor in the exercise and development of the intellectual and moral faculties." In March, 1904, the town accepted the gift of a lot of land known as Lincoln Park as a site for a library building, and instructed the trustees of the Peabody Library to erect a building at a cost not to exceed \$15,000, ready for occupancy. The trustees made a contract for the erection of a building to cost over \$18,000, claiming that the building fund exceeded \$20,000, and that the town had no authority to limit their expenditure to \$15,000. Recourse was had to the court, and the matter still awaits adjustment.

GLOUCESTER. A library called the Village Hall Library was started in the village of Annisquam in November, 1904. The library service is voluntary, and is performed by a committee of ladies,



of which Miss Helen Lane is chairman. It is supported by a fee of 50 cents for a season of six months; and the school children are allowed books for a half fee, when some member of their families has paid a full subscription. They are encouraged to read well-selected books. The people of the village, including the summer residents, have very generally availed themselves of its privileges. The establishment of this library is a part of the work of the Village Hall Association of Annisquam, the object of which is to promote the best interests of the community.

**GRATTON.** There has been a substantial increase in the deliveries at the main library and at the branches. This favorable condition is attributed "in large measure to the plan adopted one year ago (1903), of giving the people direct access to the books in the stack room. This plan has made it more of an object for people from all parts of the town to personally and regularly visit the library." The trustees add: "Carefulness by all in returning each book and magazine to its own place will increase the value of these new plans."

**GRANVILLE.** The circulation has increased. The branch at West Granville has been discontinued, and the trustees have been unable to make satisfactory arrangements for its renewal, but hope to do so soon, as it is wished to have the library benefit as many citizens of the town as possible. A stone and cement building has been constructed, to which the acetylene gas plant has been removed from the basement of the library building. The expense of this work was paid in equal shares by M. B. Whitney of Westfield and Ralph B. Cooley of Granville.

**GREENFIELD.** The statistics of 1904 show a slight gain in circulation and a marked increase in the use of the reading room. Considerable attention has been given to buying books from clearance sales, etc., for replacing and increasing the stock of standard works. An unusually large number of children have used the library. They have taken a circulation of nearly 16,000 volumes from a collection of barely 1,200 books. The hearty co-operation of the teachers of the public schools may account in part for the increased attendance of the children at the library. The ninth-grade pupils have been to the library as a class to receive instruction in the use of Poole's Index and the intelligent use of other reference books. Four deposit stations have been established, three of which are in schoolhouses and one in a private house. Inadequate space is complained of here, as in many other libraries. "The reading



room is so crowded that at busy times the children crowd two in a chair, or curl up on the floor."

Greenfield Library Association. Although it is not a free library, this is interesting itself in work with the teachers of the public schools. It has a good collection of reference books.

GROTON. This library completed its fiftieth year in 1904. At the time of its establishment there were less than 20 towns in Massachusetts that possessed public libraries. Hon. George S. Boutwell, who died in February, 1905, had filled a half-century as a trustee. Mrs. Mary T. Shumway has prepared a history of the library, which was distributed as a souvenir at the recent celebration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the town. It is not practicable to use the open-shelf system, but books, old and new, are placed outside the delivery desk for examination. A collection of shells and minerals has been given by William N. Souther, a citizen of the town.

GROVELAND. The circulation of 1904 was larger than that of any previous year.

HADLEY. Gifts of value of local and general historical interest are reported. School teachers are given unlimited use of books for school purposes.

HALIFAX. Books taken by teachers and scholars of the public schools are not subject to fines when used solely in school work.

HAMILTON. The circulation of 1904 was larger than that of any previous year; and the reading room has been well patronized at all times. Besides the delivery station at South Hamilton, books are sent to the eight public school rooms for distribution to the scholars. The library has received the "Book of Records of the Hamilton Second Social Library, Commenced February 10, 1817." The will of the late Miss Augusta Dodge of Hamilton contains a bequest of \$1,000 to this library for the furnishing of a reading room as a memorial to her sister, to be known as the Gail Hamilton Reading Room.

HANCOCK. A collection of books has been placed at the north school, as a branch, to help and interest the people in that section of the town. Both the main library and the branch are well used, and are a great benefit to the town.

HANOVER. The circulation of 1904 showed a slight gain over the issue of the preceding year. For the first time a decrease is reported in the circulation of fiction, with a gratifying increase in that of the higher departments. The books are circulated mainly through delivery stations, comparatively few being taken at the main library.

**HANSON.** The Hanson Public Library has its two divisions at North Hanson and South Hanson. With modern tendencies in view, the trustees have extended the time that books may be retained by borrowers from two to three weeks, except in the case of recent fiction, for which there may be a large demand. At South Hanson the town library has absorbed, by loan, the books of the Wampatuck Library Association, and therefore has taken its place as a circulating library. At North Hanson the Hanson Library Association still maintains an active existence in its own building, with Miss Drew of the town library as its librarian. It is in a flourishing condition, and has added to its capacity by new shelving for books. It has 169 members, and is supported mostly by entertainments. Branches of the town library, under the control of the North Hanson division, have been established at Maquan and New State. These branches, though small, are kept supplied with good reading by frequent exchanges. They have widened the scope of the usefulness of the library, by giving to the citizens of those outlying districts easier access to its privileges. It is expected that other districts will be covered as the library increases.

**HARDWICK.** On the night of Feb. 6, 1905, the books of the Hardwick Free Town Library and the Lucius R. Paige Library were lost in the fire which destroyed the high school building. Since that time about 350 volumes have been collected. A library building, which is nearly completed, is being erected at the cost of a fund left by the late Lucius R. Paige, D.D., of Cambridge. The fund amounts to about \$12,000.

Gilbertville. The library established here and maintained for the free use of the inhabitants of this village by the Geo. H. Gilbert Manufacturing Company is now known as the Gilbertville Public Library.

**HARVARD.** Teachers are allowed to take as many books as they wish for school work. Free access to the stack room is allowed to adults. A delivery station has been established at Still River.

**HAVERHILL.** The circulation of 1904, as that of 1903, showed an increase in the use of non-fiction and a loss in fiction, the latter dropping to 65 per cent. All departments of the library are open on Sunday afternoons from November 1 to May 1. The experiment is considered successful, as the reference room has been filled with readers, and the children's room and the

loan department have been well patronized. In relation to school work in 1904 the report says: "The continued co-operation between the schools and the library was a prominent feature of the year's work. The assistant in charge of this work visited each grammar school to explain the library methods. Her talks with the teachers were received with enthusiasm, and resulted in increased demands for books and pictures. Although large additions were made to the children's library, the supply of books was often inadequate. Eleven travelling libraries circulated among the union schools in the outskirts of the city; work with the summer schools was a feature, as in former years; and a special reference library for the high school was reserved in the reference room, as usual." The work of 1904 included 35 picture exhibits at the main library and 9 at the Bradford branch, and 22 reading lists were published in local newspapers. About 2,000 mounted pictures were added to the collection, which now numbers about 8,000. The Haliday platinum prints of American authors and their homes, and noted buildings and places in New England, particularly old Boston, formed the most valuable addition to the picture collection which has yet been made. Many pictures cut from magazines were mounted very artistically by the library assistants. These pictures are used by the schools and study clubs, over 6,000 having been circulated in 1904. The children's library has been reclassified and recatalogued, the printed cards of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh being used as a basis for the work. In connection with the purchase of books the report says: "It was found that the saving effected by importing was inconsiderable, except in the case of very expensive books. It did not offset the annoyance of long delays in getting books and of filing importers' affidavits, the extra cost of carriage and the loss of time spent in comparing English and American prices. The greatest saving was effected in buying from second-hand dealers and from clearance sales."

HEATH. An improvement has been made by the laying of a substantial stone walk, with steps from the street, up to the porch of the library building. The cost was paid by a lady, a former resident of the town, and one of the original donors to the building fund. The library is prospering, and the schools are making more use of its books. Free privileges were given to many summer sojourners during the past season.



HINGHAM. Nantasket Library. This library is unique among the libraries of the State in its situation and purposes, as was stated in the report of last year. The removal of games, which were kept for juvenile patrons, has been beneficial. While the room is not crowded in the evening as formerly, it appears certain that those who remain in the reading room use it to the better advantage of themselves and the library, and the young people begin to understand the help that is offered them. The summer people, through a canvass made by the secretary, have contributed generously to the support of the library.

HOLBROOK. A healthy interest is reported. A donation of \$200 has been received from Miss Mary Wales Holbrook.

HOLDEN. A weekly delivery is maintained at Jefferson. The delivery of two books on a card (one non-fiction) has been allowed recently, with good results. The pupils of the high school are given access to the library during school hours, and each teacher is allowed five books a week for school use. Portraits of Hon. Samuel C. Gale and Mrs. Gale have been presented. The antiquarian department has received copies of two maps of the town, the originals of which are in the State archives.

HOLLISTON. The library has been constantly increasing in efficiency and patronage. There is an inclination on the part of readers towards the better class of literature, and ephemeral fiction has less adult following than formerly. A material change during the year has been the abandonment of the open-shelf system. This is not considered to be a retrograde movement. For several years free access to the shelves in the stack room was allowed, with great apparent success from an educational standpoint; but considerations of importance to the authorities and staff of the library have necessitated a change in method. Recent books, and others selected by the librarian, are placed on shelves accessible to all in the reading room. The reference room has been developed in the lines of local and family history, in which the vital records of Massachusetts towns, which are being distributed to the libraries of the Commonwealth, are important aids.

HOLYOKE. This library has conducted a course of University Extension lectures in its own hall. These lectures were not free, but a low charge was made for the course. They were well attended, and gave much satisfaction. A department of books

in French has been begun; and a collection of pictures, mounted, classified and catalogued, is in preparation. Articles of Japanese art, valued at about \$500, have been received from citizens of Holyoke; and a small but carefully mounted collection of botanical specimens has been presented.

**HOPEDALE.** The circulation has been largely increased. The trustees say: "This is doubtless due in part to the use of the second or non-fiction card, partly to the increase in population, but chiefly to the able service which is given the public by our librarian." In reference to school work the report says: "A very important work is that which is done by the pupils of the public schools and every effort is made to give them the splendid opportunities of a public library. In so far as possible, all books suggested by the teachers and superintendent, other than text-books, are purchased. Our librarian held a meeting of the teachers at the library, that the teachers might learn what we had which would be of service to them, and that we might learn what they would like added to our already well-equipped reference department. The teacher in every grade sent us a list for summer reading, which increased our circulation; for not only were new cards taken by the pupils, but in some cases the parents took out the books to read them to the children." The circulation of music seems to be an excellent experiment, judging by the fact that it is in almost constant demand. Mrs. C. L. Bailey has presented a valuable collection of 72 books on technical subjects, all of which are of recent publication. Special work is being done along the line of local history, a work which deserves more attention than it has heretofore received from trustees and librarians of town libraries. Mrs. Susan Preston Draper has caused to be placed upon the library grounds a beautiful memorial fountain, which has been presented to the town. It is of Carrara marble, surmounted by a statue of Hope, and artistically is a great success. It is by the eminent American sculptor in Rome, Waldo Story. In its presentation the donor said: "As a southerner by birth, I have given less thought to the utilitarian side; but I hope that the cups of water here furnished will refresh many a tired mechanic or schoolboy in long years to come."

**HOPKINTON.** A bequest of \$2,000 has been received by the will of the late James A. Woolson of Cambridge, a native of Hopkinton, the income of which is to be used for running expenses and the purchase of books. The late Mrs. Sarah A. Crooks, a

native and resident of the town, left by will \$5,000, the income of which may be used in any way for the benefit of the library.

HUBBARDSTON. The use of books, particularly among the young, increases from year to year. Since the first of July borrowers have had free access to the shelves. The people appear to appreciate the liberty thus given, and it is hoped that the privilege will not be abused as time goes on. Miss Celia Clark of Cambridge has presented a collection of shells.

HUDSON. The new Carnegie library, of which a brief description was given in the report of last year, was opened for the delivery of books in November, 1905. There was no dedication or ceremony of any kind at the opening. A tablet in memory of the soldiers of Hudson is to be placed in the building. The almost obsolete custom of closing the library for the annual examination has been abandoned. The examination in July was done without interference with the regular circulation. "The results were just as good, and the public had the use of the library at the same time, a favor which was fully appreciated." Special privileges are given to teachers and pupils, there being no limit to the number of books they may take, and no time limit of retention.

HUNTINGTON. The trustees say: "While the work accomplished has not been all that we would desire, yet, taking into consideration the many drawbacks which a small library has to contend with, we feel that the library is filling its place in the community as an educator, both morally and mentally." Two branches are maintained, and are much appreciated by the people in their respective districts. That at Knightville has the yearly loan of a travelling library of the Woman's Education Association, in addition to the deposit sent from the main library.

HYDE PARK. Books for school use are purchased as far as practicable, and are used by the pupils at the library, or they may be taken away. At the request of the principals, books needed for reference work are sent to the schools, and may remain there for one term. Teachers may take six books for school use, and retain them for one month, without renewal. In general circulation books may be renewed by personal application or by mail, without being returned to the library. There is an increasing use of reference books. There has never been a more earnest and intelligent use of such books among the young people than has recently been manifest. There is a larger use of books other than fiction in the children's depart-



ment. The first book asked for by a Russian boy was a history of the United States.

IPSWICH. Miss Lydia Caldwell, who had been librarian since 1868, resigned in April, and Mrs. Mary B. Maine was elected to fill the vacancy. The library has been reorganized by Miss Ella Sites Wood; the Dewey system of classification has been adopted, with the Cutter-Sanborn numbers; and a card catalogue is being made. One of the new features is the "children's corner," where a table and chairs are placed for the younger patrons of the library, and their books are shelved near by. The children come in increased numbers, and seem to enjoy their privileges. Open shelves, newly inaugurated, are thought to be leading to a better class of reading. More lights have been put in, and there are more evening readers than formerly. The Newark charging system is to be used.

KINGSTON. In addition to the regular two cards, teachers may take ten extra cards for school use.

LAKEVILLE. The library continues to be well used, and has shown that it is no longer an experiment, but an institution. A series of entertainments during the summer has furnished the nucleus of a building fund.

LANCASTER. The experiment of making the shelves in the reading room accessible to readers is said to be an unqualified success. Readers express themselves as much pleased with the change, which allows them to make their selections from the shelves. The objection urged against open shelves, that it leads to a loss of books, has not been found true here. A section of shelves in the reading room has been set aside for books used by the literature class of the Woman's Club. This is a useful innovation, as it makes the books recommended for use accessible whenever they are wanted. The plan of allowing teachers in outlying districts to receive and distribute among their pupils such books as are desired, these being carried by friendly hands without expense to the town, has greatly increased the usefulness of the library. The experiment of varnishing books as a protection against soiling has been tried. So far, it appears to be successful. Any spots or dirt may be removed with a damp sponge, leaving the cover as bright as ever. The library has anticipated the coming of the gypsy and the brown-tail moths, by making itself a centre of information regarding them. The librarian prepared picture bulletins, using the pamphlets sent out by the Board of Agriculture. These were

hung in the library and in the two post-offices. Two cases were prepared, showing both moths in every stage. These are on exhibition at the library. Copies of the Medford "Mercury," showing the devastations of the pests, are also exhibited. Electric lights, in place of the old gasoline lights, have been installed in the library building. A portrait of the late Hon. Henry S. Nourse, for many years a trustee of the library, has been presented by Miss L. A. Nourse. Col. John E. Thayer has given \$200 for an additional supply of books beyond the town's appropriation; and a benefactor who declines being named has given \$50 for the purchase of books relating to the fine arts. Other gifts of artistic and historic value have been received.

**LANESBOROUGH.** The relations between the library and the schools are becoming closer. To meet a growing demand from very young readers and a lack of supplementary reading in the schools, a selection from the publications of the Educational Publishing Company has been purchased, which are in great demand. The Browne charging system has been introduced.

**LAWRENCE.** The circulation of 1904 was larger than that of 1903. There has been a notable and gratifying gain in the use of the reference room. An attempt has been made to co-operate with the teacher of Greek and Latin history at the high school. Specially prepared lists were made and reserved in the reference room for the use of those who were interested in these subjects. That the effort was appreciated was evident from the numbers that were daily in attendance to consult them. The children's department continues to grow in popular favor, and is often severely taxed for room for those who wish to use it.

**LEE.** A trial contract for a year has been made with the Tabard Inn, as a means of meeting the demand for fiction. During a trial of about four months it has proved to be quite popular with readers of light literature.

**LEICESTER.** Lists of books prepared for each grade, from the fourth to the ninth inclusive, are in the hands of each teacher in the town. It is expected that each scholar will read one or more books monthly. The children will be questioned upon their reading, and at the end of the year the one giving the most thoughtful and grammatical answers will receive a prize. The school superintendent is seeing that this work is carried out. This plan is yet in the embryo stage, yet the results, so far, have been good. "If it will cause one boy or girl to love

and understand books who before has disdained them, the time and labor put upon the lists by the librarian will not have been in vain."

LENOX. A handsome library desk and new carpets have been received. The circulation of 1904 was the largest in the history of the library.

LEOMINSTER. Progress has been made in every department, and the usefulness of the library has been much increased. The statistics show a marked gain over previous records, and the entire year has been one of progress. A number of articles of local historical interest has been added to the museum. Mr. James M. Bronson, who after many years of faithful service resigned the librarianship several years ago, reached the end of a long and useful life in October, 1904. With unfailing courtesy and fidelity he served the public during the many years when the library and reading room were making a place for themselves in the public esteem.

LEXINGTON. The use made of the library in 1904 was about 20 per cent. larger than in any previous year. This is attributed to a growth of the literary habit in the community, and to an extension of the open hours, which render the library readily available to all. A new library building is being erected at the corner of Clark Street and Massachusetts Avenue, overlooking the battle ground. It will have a shelving capacity of 55,000 volumes, and all the conveniences of a modern library building. It is to be a gift to the town by the heirs of the late Mrs. Maria (Hastings) Cary of Brooklyn, N. Y., a native of Lexington, who in her lifetime and by her will was a generous benefactor of the town and the library.

LINCOLN. Teachers of the public schools may take as many books as they desire for school use, subject to the same restrictions that govern the withdrawal of books by other borrowers.

LONGMEADOW. The library is open on one afternoon in the week, and is well patronized then. The people are allowed to take as many books, within reasonable limits, as they may wish. Special regard is paid to the needs of the teachers and pupils of the schools, and the former may draw books at any time during the week. A portrait of the late ex-Senator Wolcott, who was born in Longmeadow, has been presented by his brother.

LUDLOW. The circulation of 1904 showed an increase of 26 per cent., and the attendance in the reading room an increase of 22 per cent. One hundred and forty-five new books were pre-



sented by the Ludlow Manufacturing Associates, and a number of French books were ordered. No pains are spared to make the library of use to the town, and an increasing appreciation of its worth is evident. Miss Mary A. Birnie resigned the librarianship Aug. 1, 1904, and Miss Edith Crowninshield was elected to fill the vacancy.

LUNENBURG. Teachers of the public schools are allowed an unlimited number of books for school work, and an increasing number of scholars make use of the library for reference, study and home reading.

LYNN. Books are sent monthly to the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association and the library of the General Electric Company, where they are delivered for home use. At the beginning of the school year 1904-05, 25 copies of six different books, selected by a committee of the Lynn Educational Society, were purchased for circulation in the public schools. The books were "Robinson Crusoe," "Tom Brown's School-days," "Hans Brinker," "The Wonder Book," "Marmion," and "Docas, the Indian Boy of Santa Clara." During the year these books were read by 5,637 people. Twenty-five copies each of six other books have been added and went into circulation at the beginning of the present school year. In February was begun the plan of inviting the outlying schools to go to the library on Saturday mornings, to listen to talks on various subjects, which are illustrated by exhibitions of photographs, stereographs, colored plates, etc. These talks are given by members of the staff, and have been well attended. Certain grades are invited for special dates, thereby ensuring an attendance which can be comfortably cared for in the lecture room. The work with the blind has been continued with such success that the room which at first was considered large enough has been found to be too small, and additional accommodations have been provided, which has increased the attendance. Hon. Frank D. Allen, in carrying out the wishes of his wife, the late Lucy Rhodes Allen, has presented to the library a painting by Giovanni Francesco Barbieri (Guercino), which will be hung in the Memorial Hall. A full-length portrait of Abraham Lincoln has been presented by Dr. H. P. Leonard and the Lincoln Club. John Clarkson Houghton, who resigned the position of librarian in 1904, died at Lynn, July 26, 1905, at the age of eighty-two years.

LYNNFIELD. The accommodations at the town hall having become inadequate for the increasing needs of the library, the

old school building near the common has been altered and improved, and the library is now in possession of its own building. The charges of alteration were paid from the fund left by the late George L. Hawkes. A bequest of \$4,000 has been received by the will of the late George N. Blake of Boston, the income of which is to be used in the purchase of books.

**MALDEN.** The increased circulation of 1904 has practically been maintained in 1905. A slight decrease in eleven months was nearly or quite in the use of fiction. There has been a large increase in the number of books taken from the children's library, and there is an increase in books taken for library use. Additional shelving in the children's room has allowed that department to be extended to about 4,500 volumes. The school library, a collection held apart from the main library for school use, has been increased to about 1,700 volumes. The school service has been enlarged by furnishing books for the third grade, one grade lower than before. This year, books on pedagogics, ethics and other subjects useful to the teachers, have been drawn from the main collection and delivered with the school libraries. This appears to have been found to be of much advantage. Books for the Boys' Club and the evening school are taken from the school collection. Books are now furnished to the Edgeworth Mission Chapel. The former upward movement in the Sunday attendance has not continued during the year. Daniel L. Milliken, who had been a trustee during twenty-four years, died March 3, 1905.

**MANCHESTER.** The circulation has slightly increased, and the percentage of fiction delivered has slightly decreased. The children are turning to nature studies. Stories of animals, birds and insects interest them. The Browne system of charging is used, and gives perfect satisfaction. The librarian says: "For twelve years all persons belonging to the town, summer residents and boarders, over ten years of age, have been allowed the freedom of the alcoves. Upon the whole, it works well."

**MANSFIELD.** The will of the late Mrs. Fanny J. Morse, an old resident of the town, contains a bequest of \$1,000 for the benefit of the library.

**MARBLEHEAD.** The circulation of 1904 was slightly larger than that of 1903. Since the card catalogue was installed it has been in constant use by both old and young. "None consult it more frequently than do the children; and if they thus acquire the habit of searching out for themselves information

that they may want, instead of depending upon others to do it for them, it will be to them a useful discipline, and in their maturer years will be more helpful to them than the books they are now reading." Complaint is made of a lack of room, which has been met by temporary expedients which will soon be exhausted.

MARION. The books have been rearranged. The teachers and pupils of the schools use the library freely for reference work and general school reading.

MARLBOROUGH. This library is recovering from the effects of the fire which destroyed its collection in December, 1902, and such works in each department of literature as are found lacking are being added as fast as possible. The total number of volumes at the close of 1904 was 13,580. Monthly lists are printed in the local papers. Many valuable gifts have been received, including a collection of letters and papers in connection with the history of the town, from the estate of the Rev. Horatio Alger, for many years pastor of the Unitarian Church, given by his daughter, Mrs. Augusta A. Cheney of Natick. A branch library was established in the Robin Hill district in April, 1905.

MARSHFIELD. Ventress Free Public Library. A slight decrease in the circulation of 1904 is noted, but the library is well patronized, and the reading is becoming a necessity. Deliveries are made semi-weekly at the main library, and weekly at the seven outlying post-offices of the town. As the library is in the same building as the high school, it has become of great use in the school work.

MATTAPOISETT. Mr. and Mrs. C. A. King have given the sum of \$500, which is being invested in books, largely non-fiction.

MEDFORD. The circulation of 1904 showed a slight gain over that of the preceding two years. The work of the library, although prosecuted under some disadvantages, owing to the illness of members of the staff, and especially owing to the inadequacy of the book accommodations of the building, has maintained its usual standard of excellence. There is a constant increase in the number of book borrowers from year to year, and the facilities which the library in its various departments furnishes the public are satisfactorily utilized. Books are sent to every school room in the city, with the exception of the kindergartens and the high school, the latter having a good library of its own. Teachers of the high school may select such books as



they may need in school work, limited only by the capacity of the library. Books sent to the schools have no connection with the school studies, but are chosen to create a taste for better reading. They may be taken to the homes of the pupils, or they may be used in the schools at the option of the teacher. The exchanges are made every six weeks, and the cost of transportation is paid from the school appropriation. By this means the library has become an important part of the educational establishment of the city, and is recognized as such by the school authorities. The work has now been extended by sending books to such Sunday-schools as desire them. Books are now delivered at five stations, at two of which exchanges are made semi-weekly, and at the others weekly. Miss Lucy M. T. Brayton, who was for five years at the head of the children's department, died Oct. 20, 1904. To her untiring zeal and loving, faithful and efficient service was due in a great measure the success of the department.

MELROSE. A decrease in the circulation of 1904 may be attributed to the discontinuance of the branch at Melrose Highlands, and the closing of the library during the removal to the new building. The average daily circulation was larger than in 1903. The facilities for undisturbed reading offered by the new building have been appreciated, as is shown by the large number of people using the reading room. The children's room has had a corresponding patronage. The open-shelf system has apparently been popular with readers, but it "occasions much more labor for the librarian and her assistants in keeping the shelves in order and the books each in its proper place." The 1,000 volumes presented by the late Daniel W. Gooch, which have been stored for many years, have been placed in a room in the basement, called the Gooch Library. These books record congressional action during and immediately after the civil war, and are of much value.

MENDON. Mrs. Annie E. Barnes resigned as librarian at the close of 1904, and has been succeeded by Miss Annie W. Gaskill. The almost obsolete custom of covering new books has been abandoned. The preparation of a complete card catalogue is recommended by the trustees. A drawing of the meeting house built in 1668 has been hung in the library.

MERRIMAC. The usefulness of the library is attested by an increase of 25 per cent. in the circulation of 1904 over that of 1903. A file of the Merrimac "Budget" has been presented by the

publisher. A collection of books has been placed where it may be accessible to all.

**MIDDLEBOROUGH.** Although the library was closed seven weeks preparatory and during the removal into the new building, the circulation of 1904 showed a gain of 46 per cent. over that of 1903. This is due to the adoption of the two-card system, and the stimulus which a new building gives to public interest. The age limit has been reduced from fourteen years to ten. Books are reserved by the postal-card system. Of the so-called popular novels, duplicates are purchased when thought advisable, but in many instances, after a few weeks, one copy is all-sufficient; and it does not seem wise, in a small library, to fill the shelves with too many useless books, many of which are dead in a year. Lists of new books are printed in the local newspaper. The reading room has daily and weekly newspapers on file, among which are nine religious weekly papers, the gift of societies and individuals representing different denominations. This room is open on Sundays from 2 until 7 P.M., and has the Sunday papers. In the children's room the children have free access to the shelves, and the bulletin always contains something seasonable to interest or instruct. The librarian adds: "If the library is right at all, surely no more fertile or profitable field for usefulness can be found than this work among the children." Thirty-two teachers have special cards, and are allowed to draw an almost unlimited number of books for school work.

**MIDDLETON.** The books are classified by the Dewey-Cutter system, and the Browne charging system is used. The school children are brought to the centre of the town, and occupy one building; and the teachers and pupils have the use of all the books they need for reference and reading. The teachers draw the books which are needed by the scholars in school work. The scholars of the town who attend the high school in Danvers improve the library for reference and reading.

**MILTON.** The new building has proved to be a good working library. Several important changes have been made in the general service. The age limit of twelve years has been abandoned, so that children of all ages may now have cards. Borrowers are allowed as many books at one time as they may need, provided that but one is a "seven-day" book. If books are needed for special study, they are issued for any reasonable

time which the borrower may require. The privilege of taking as many books as necessary has been greatly appreciated, and has not so far interfered with the service. After a trial of twelve months, one reading room has been given up and a delivery station substituted, with a small deposit of books which may be borrowed in the usual way. Each month ten books suitable for boys and men are sent on deposit to the principal barber-shop at Milton Village. School deposits are made monthly, and the children's librarian visits the schools, to find how she can make the library more useful to the teachers. Some schools report that the doing away with the age limit has lessened the circulation from those schools, as the pupils prefer to take books out on their cards rather than from the school deposit. The new children's room, well equipped and beautiful in decoration, has been very popular with the children. Stereoscopic views are used to convey instruction as well as pleasure. When books illustrated by artists of note become too worn for circulation, the illustrations are cut out and grouped in portfolios. Exhibitions of the Library Art Club are given monthly; and several hundred photographs are in circulation. In December, 1904, both the reading room and the circulating department were opened on Sundays from 12 until 6 P.M., and so continued until May 1. At first books were delivered to children, as well as adults; but after a few Sundays that privilege was taken away, so that more attention might be given to adults who could not come to the library at any other time. The experiment was considered successful.

MONROE. The library of this town is divided between two branches that are kept in private houses. For lack of convenient room, books which are seldom called for are stored in another private house for the present. Books are transferred from time to time between the branches. Owing to the distance which some have to travel to obtain books, the establishment of another branch will be desirable when an increase in the number of books will allow. The books are quite freely used by the teachers and pupils of the schools.

MONSON. There has been a notable increase in the circulation, due to the two-book system adopted about two years ago, and the large number of juvenile card holders. The age limit has been reduced, and any child who can sign the registration blank may have a card. Books for circulation and reference



have been added to meet the demands of teachers, students and clubs, and are sent to the several schools of the town upon request.

**MONTEREY.** This library is used by the summer visitors as well as by the townspeople. An entertainment by the former gave an opportunity for the purchase of more books. Teachers take as many books as are needed for school use, and retain them as long as is necessary. A catalogue is being made.

**MONTGOMERY.** The librarian says: "Our library is still a source of pleasure and profit to its patrons. The interest is even greater than during the previous years. Our list of books is slowly increasing. Our funds are very limited, so that the increase is necessarily slow. It is our aim to keep as much as possible our shelves free from the trashy reading that simply entertains for the moment, and creates a sordid taste. We are glad to note that many of our young readers call for the books that not only interest but instruct. We close the year feeling that the library has well fulfilled its mission, and begin the new year hoping for its increased sphere of usefulness, through more available material."

**NANTUCKET.** Important changes have been made during the year, by which the library, which was formerly in restricted quarters in the rear end of the building, has been given the entire lower floor of the Athenæum building. Several steel stacks have been installed, and the books removed and rearranged.

**NATICK.** Morse Institute Library. The work of reorganization and reclassification, which is in charge of Mr. Herbert S. Hirshberg, has been continued. The Newark charging system has been installed, and is rapidly gaining favor because of its simplicity; and the card pocket appeals strongly to those who were always in doubt as to what had become of their cards. The privilege of having books retained twenty-four hours, on leaving one cent for postal notice, without giving up the borrower's card while waiting, is much appreciated. As there is not sufficient room for open shelves, about 5,000 volumes have been placed in the delivery and reference rooms for consultation. Library hours have been increased, and the reading room is open on Sunday afternoons except through the summer months. Many minor improvements, which will increase the efficiency of the service, have been made. In the children's room the attendance is growing in a gratifying way. There is already no room for additional books, and the seating

capacity is often inadequate. The circulation in this department has been steadily growing. The reading rooms maintain their popularity, and it frequently happens that the accommodations are not equal to the demand made upon them.

NEEDHAM. The library in the new Carnegie building at Highlandville is having a rapid growth. Its use by juvenile readers in the evening is large, and at times the chairs are all occupied. In relation to the old library the trustees say: "In view of the comparatively few new books placed during 1904 in the older library, it is perhaps remarkable that the use of it has continued to the extent that it has. The number of readers who frequent this library has increased, and there are many people who derive much pleasure from it."

NEW BEDFORD. The addition of a new gallery and stacks provided additional room for about 15,000 volumes, but there is still a great need of more room. Attention is called to the necessity of enlarged reading room accommodations, and particularly to the great need of a children's room. There can be no permanent improvement until the time shall come when a new library building can be provided. The library maintains two branch libraries, delivery stations at three stores and deposit stations at six engine houses, one school building and at the Unity House. A deposit station has also been established at a summer resort in the suburbs. The school service is attended to on requisitions of the teachers and pupils. A class of pupil teachers from a training school has been given instruction in library methods during the year, with good results. Also, some attention has been paid to supplying the wants of blind readers. Numerous bulletins and reading lists have been arranged to meet the popular demand.

NEWBURYPORT. Newburyport Public Library. An increase of about 10 per cent. is reported in the circulation of 1904. There is no branch of this library, but books are sent freely to the South End Reading Room, as they are asked for. A bequest of \$1,000 has been received under the will of the late George Haskell.

South End Reading Room. This reading room and library, in that portion of the city locally known as Joppa, had its beginnings in January, 1900, by the exertions of Miss Emma M. Lander and Miss Anna L. Coffin, after efforts had failed to procure the establishment of a branch of the city library. The need of a suitable place as a reading room for young

people was so imperative that an independent movement was made, with favorable results. Money and books were given, and an annual appropriation of \$200, which has been increased to \$250, was granted by the city government. Fairs, entertainments and gifts make up the sum of its income. It was the desire of the founders that the institution might become incorporated "that it might not be dependent upon either the life or supervision of one person, but would have years of usefulness and helpfulness ahead of it." This was accomplished in January, 1904. A little later a successful effort to collect a building fund was begun. To this fund William H. Swasey contributed the sum of \$1,050, and the fund was completed by other liberal givers. A suitable building, purchased and fitted up at a cost of about \$3,800, was dedicated with appropriate exercises, July 20, 1905. One of the founders said, in her dedicatory address: "The two teachers who have carried on the work of this association have given the best years of their lives to the cause of education in this ward. If the reading room and library proves to be a continuance of their work, an educational centre for this part of the city, an incentive to ambitious boys and girls to employ their time wisely and to make the most of their opportunities, if to the sick or weary it alleviates the dreary hours, if to many it becomes either an inspiration or help, the wishes of its founders will be realized." The library is free to the inhabitants of the south end of the city. It is governed by a board of directors, with Miss Lander as secretary and manager and Miss Coffin as treasurer.

NEW MARLBOROUGH. The town library is distributed among the five villages, as was stated in the report of last year. There is at New Marlborough Village a small, unnamed library, the gift of friends and summer visitors, which is under the care of the town librarian. The Seymour Library Association at Southfield has a collection which in past years has been free to the inhabitants of that village, but a small fee is now charged for its use. Its librarian has the charge of the branch of the town library.

NEWTON. The circulation, which had declined steadily for three years, shows an upward tendency, that of 1904 giving an excess of 11,000 over that of 1903. Nearly 60 per cent. of the present circulation is made through the four branch libraries and seven delivery stations. From 100 to 500 volumes, fre-



quently exchanged, are deposited at each of the branches. The reading rooms connected with the branches are centrally located, and are extending their usefulness in many ways. They are patronized evenings by a large class of working people, who appear to be anxious to improve their minds and keep in touch with the current topics of the day. The children's room is already taxed to its full extent. Teachers are making use of the room by sending scholars for books in connection with school work, and by asking that pictures on various subjects be hung there. A teacher took her class to the room to show the pupils the uses and abuses of the library. The age limit has been abandoned. The old custom of covering books, now nearly obsolete, has practically ceased in this library. Uncovered books are more attractive and easier of selection, and the change has met with hearty approval. All of the public schools and many of the private schools share in the distribution of books. Resident teachers may have an extra number of volumes. A gift of \$200 has been received from the estate of Miss E. L. Rand. A bequest of \$5,000 by the late John C. Chaffin, a constant and generous friend of the library, has been received, "the income thereof to be expended in the purchase of books of an instructive and elevating character, including standard works of biography, travel and science." A portrait of Mr. Chaffin has been placed in the library, and a portrait of the late Miss Hannah P. James, a former librarian of this library, has been presented by the Hon. Isaac T. Burr.

**NORTH ADAMS.** A decrease in the circulation of 1904 was caused by a smallpox epidemic in the early fall months, which affected the library, as it did everything else in the city. Juvenile books were formerly kept in the main library, but, as the stacks are high and the passages narrow, there was much inconvenience. A new delivery room with low shelves has been opened, which, although already crowded, is a great improvement. As a result, the percentage of classified fiction has risen one-half. Stories, illustrated as far as possible, were told during the summer to a room filled with interested children. There has been increased co-operation between the library and the schools; more of the teachers are asking that lists be sent to them. Teachers say that they can pick out "library boys and girls" by their brightness in their studies.

**NORTHAMPTON.** Forbes Library. The chief innovation at this library has been the purchase of the 8,000 volumes of the A.

L. A. catalogue, and the purchase of the complete list of 1,000 best novels of the Newark Public Library list. The catalogues of these collections have been sold at cost, and the public seems to have welcomed the change. A notable development in inter-library loans has been made, by which the use of the books of the A. L. A. collection is offered to the smaller Massachusetts libraries in a circular which has been issued by Mr. Cutter. He says: "All of these books are available to your readers through inter-library loan, under the condition that you pay transportation both ways, and be responsible for the immediate return of the books when they are called for by this library. This does not apply to fiction, which will not be sent unless there is some extraordinary reason why it should be."

Northampton Public Library. The trustees say: "The library has made some progress. It has not only purchased new books, but it has employed new methods. It has offered special inducements to the young, by furnishing lists and nominal premiums for study. It has also offered to all classes increased facilities for reading and reference, and has made its catalogues more complete and specific." A slight gain in the circulation of 1904 is attributed to freer access to the shelves. A children's corner has been provided and furnished with books, which are freely used by the children. The course of vacation reading for children during the summer months, which proved so successful in 1904, was even more popular and successful in 1905. The Lilly Free Library appears in the library report as the Florence branch, for which the Lilly Library Association expended \$359.06 for books and periodicals in 1904. Over one-third of the books circulated at this branch in 1904 was furnished by the Forbes Library.

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH. A new catalogue has been printed, "which fills a long-felt need, as no catalogue has been published since 1890. Although there has been the card catalogue, there was a growing necessity for one the people could use in their homes." Among the gifts of the year, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Barrows, Jr., "added at Christmas time 25 volumes of children's books to the Maude Barrows Memorial, which memorial continues to be a never-failing pleasure to the children." A gift of books from the library of the late Henry Rice contained a complete set of the "North American

Review." In school work the librarian and the teacher of English literature in the high school make a list of six books for each class, all of which are required to be read during the year. This list contains books in biography, history, travel and fiction. Essays upon the books read are also required. There is also a large general list of books for the entire school, ten books of which must be read during the year. It is believed that this method will increase the use of good literature.

**NORTHBOROUGH.** One hundred dollars worth of books for children and youth has been given by Mrs. Louisa Dudley Brooks of New York. Several old books and documents of local interest have been presented, and the trustees renew an appeal for books, papers and objects having a relation to the history of the town and its vicinity. For several years there has been a steady progress in the use of the library. While the population of the town may not be increasing, each year has shown a larger number of patrons and a marked increase in use by minors. More has been done to co-operate with the teachers in the public schools, and the teachers, in turn, have interested more pupils in the library.

**NORTH BROOKFIELD.** There is a steady increase in the demand for good literature, which is shown in a low percentage of fiction circulated in 1904. The attendance in the reading and reference rooms has been very good. Exhibitions of pictures loaned by the Woman's Education Association have been given.

**NORTHFIELD.** The relics and antiques in the museum have been carefully and systematically catalogued. In relation to school work in 1904 the trustees say: "It will be seen that the number of books taken by the public schools has decreased nearly one-half. This is to be regretted. It is hoped that the school superintendent and teachers will devise ways and means to increase the service of the library in the public schools. This is one of the important uses of a public library, and should be carefully fostered." The use of the reading room is increasing. Mr. Montague Chamberlain has made a generous gift of books and pamphlets, most of which deal with bird lore. In purchasing, "particular attention is bestowed upon books which shall both please and educate the young, and thus co-operate with parents and teachers. Another aim of the committee is to buy books adapted to life in the country and the needs of the practical farmer. One of the highest ends



of the library would be fulfilled if the farmers of the town could be induced to look to it to furnish them with such books and magazines as might profit them."

**OAKHAM.** The library has been recatalogued. A delivery route, which is well patronized, is maintained through the village of Coldbrook. By the will of the late Charles Fobes of Petersham a bequest of \$4,000 has been received for a library building, and Mrs. Maria T. F. Rugg of Oakham has given a convenient corner lot for its site.

**ORANGE.** Additional furniture has enlarged the accommodations for reference work. In the selection of books the aim has been to meet the expressed wishes of the patrons, as far as possible. The needs of the public schools and the study clubs have been considered, as well as the demand for popular fiction, and the trustees would have been even more generous had the funds been adequate. The resources of the library have been much enriched by a generous gift of music, scores of operas, oratorios, piano and vocal collections, from William S. Johnson of Athol. J. W. Wheeler of Orange has presented bound volumes of the "Youth's Companion," a valuable addition to the juvenile department. Many public documents of value are constantly received from the government, which have been arranged in a case for ready consultation. The increase of young readers is constant, and all departments of the library resources are well tested by their demands, which contribute to the ever-present need for the best literary productions and works of reference on general subjects.

**ORLEANS.** Teachers of the public schools are allowed to take as many books as they wish, and to retain them during the term, or as long as they are in use. Special efforts have been made during the present year to procure books for young children, and they have been eagerly taken.

**OTIS.** Responsible families, living five or more miles from the library, and sometimes a mile or more from neighbors, are allowed to take twenty or thirty books and keep them for six or eight weeks, or longer if it is desirable. Teachers are given every opportunity for the use of books in school work. Some make selections which are kept at the schools for the use of the children.

**OXFORD.** The circulation is increasing. The relations with the schools are close. Teachers and pupils take what books they need in school work, and may retain them a reasonable time.

Two books, but one of which may be fiction, may be taken on one card. The school exhibitions of drawings have been given at the library. A wish is expressed that the library may be made as much as possible a social centre. Some relics of local historical interest have been received.

PEABODY. The circulation has increased, and the percentage of fiction delivered continues to decline, year by year. The issuing of a second or non-fiction card, the constant display of the latest accessions of the higher classes of literature upon open shelves, are the chief causes of the decrease in fiction. A weekly delivery station is maintained at West Peabody. "Teachers in the West and South Peabody schools select thirty or forty books, which are charged to the school and sent by messenger. These are retained six or eight weeks, the teachers in the different grades seeing to the circulation of the books in their respective rooms. Teachers in the central portion of the town select what books they need, which are charged to them, without the use of a card. There is practically no limit to the number of books a teacher may take in this way for her personal use or for the pupils in her room."

PELHAM. The room occupied by the library in the town hall has been enlarged, and is now both commodious and attractive. Books to the number of twenty at one time are loaned to teachers for school work. A travelling library is loaned by the Woman's Education Association, to be exchanged at the end of a year. Pictures are loaned by the same association, which are instructive and make the library room more attractive. One hundred and ninety-eight books have been presented by the Brookline Public Library. A small branch library has been established at West Pelham.

PEPPERELL. The age limit is eight years, and the two-book system is used. Teachers of the public schools have special privileges. There has been an increase in the use of the reference department by the young people.

PHILLIPSTON. A collection of books is held for the use of the schools, and are taken by the teachers as wanted. Three schools are delivery stations.

PITTSFIELD. The circulation of 1904 was in advance of that of 1903. The Bodley books are used, "and the people demand them, with seemingly as much zest as ever." The demands on the reference department have increased in variety and extent. More historical information has been called for, and

more ethical, technical and genealogical questions have been presented, while less wagers have been decided and fewer puzzles have been brought for solution. An important special work, which may be commended to libraries possessing files of local newspapers, has been the indexing of the Pittsfield "Sun" from its beginning in 1800 to May, 1905. This involved the examination of each article in the paper, and the selection of those which should be indexed. This index has been copied upon cards for library use, and is to be printed by the Sun Company as a supplement, and also in pamphlet form. All the pamphlets, "which had hitherto been inaccessible, except as entered in the old printed catalogue," have been rearranged and recatalogued. The report of the librarian, which appeared in the bulletin for July, can hardly be quoted except *in extenso*. As it raises and answers questions which occur to many librarians, sometimes in a discouraging way, it is eminently worthy of a perusal. One sentence may be a consolation, if remembered at times. "We simply can't stop growing if we would, and if we could we would not."

PLAINVILLE. The village of Plainville formerly enjoyed the benefit of a station of the Wrentham Public Library, which was discontinued upon the recent incorporation of the new town. Efforts are being made to effect the establishment of a library.

PLYMOUTH. The use of the reading room has largely increased. A collection of about 150 books has been sent to Manomet for distribution. This is not properly a branch as yet, but is simply a loan taken in charge by a local club.

PLYMPTON. The library is freely used by the inhabitants of the town, and is kept well supplied with books. Teachers have always had all needed privileges as regards books for school work.

PRESCOTT. One of the branch libraries serves a few families living over the town lines in New Salem and Greenwich, a neighborly service which might be imitated, with good results, in other localities. The public schools have free use of the library and branches, and any school may take six books at a time. Henry L. Berry, who had been librarian since the library was established in 1891, resigned in August, and Miss Flora A. Griswold was elected to fill the vacancy. Lists of books added during the year are printed in the town reports, so that each family may have a copy.



PRINCETON. The circulation of 1904 was the largest in the history of the library. The gain was mainly due to the increased use of the library by the summer people. Edward A. Goodnow, the donor of the library building, died at Worcester, Feb. 1, 1905. By his will the library receives a bequest of \$1,000. Books have been deposited at the house of Miss Edith Roper in East Hubbardston for the use of the people in that village and the west part of Princeton. The public school teachers have free access to the library at all times.

PROVINCETOWN. Four hundred and sixteen summer visitors took 2,216 volumes in 1904. Formerly, strangers were allowed the privileges of the library without payment; but the large number of people who availed themselves of this liberty so crowded out the home people that it was found desirable to charge the small fee of twenty-five cents for the season to strangers. During the months of July and August of the present year an increase of work caused the employment of an assistant, whose services proved very satisfactory.

QUINCY. Delivery stations are maintained at Atlantic, Wollaston and West Quincy, with very good results. The circulation of 1904 shows a slight increase in the use of fiction, which still stands at a low rate,—61.04. Three hundred and twenty-eight volumes were loaned from the Bodley Club Library. "This library has proved a success. The only difficulty is the securing of the books. The possible selection is not so large as might be wished, so that the librarian is not able to fill out her full list. If this could be done, the circulation might be very largely increased, as the books are no sooner placed in the revolving bookcase than they are immediately taken. The main difficulty is to get them returned in time to send for a new supply. The books are of the average quality of fiction, neither very good nor very bad. The number of books loaned by no means represents their circulation." The trustees report "the absence of any facilities in the way of a reading room where adult persons could read or consult reference books undisturbed by the noise and presence of the children, who flock to the library in afternoons." A temporary remedy has been applied, but it "is only a postponement of the much-needed reading room, whereby the advantages of the library can be more largely placed at the disposal of the public, especially of students and teachers." A bronze tablet in memory of Mrs.

Clarissa Starkey Crane, one of the donors of the building, has been placed upon the walls of the library by her son, Albert Crane.

**RANDOLPH.** The circulation of 1904 showed a slight increase. The teachers took about one-third more books on the special cards than during the preceding year. In addition, a large number of volumes were selected by teachers and read at the library by the visiting scholars. Ten exhibitions of the Library Art Club were given in 1904. "These views have given pleasure and helpful aid to our patrons, and are always of great educational value. If the exhibits were more generally visited and more carefully studied, our friends would find this diversion a pleasant and helpful aid in obtaining information."

**READING.** The library continues to receive the liberal patronage of the public. Its use for other purposes than the circulation of fiction increases, and the plan of putting recent accessions upon open shelves appears to operate in that direction. A considerable number of books especially adapted to reference work in connection with the schools has been obtained, and others will be purchased upon the suggestion of teachers from time to time. The trustees invite suggestions from persons engaged in particular lines of research, wishing, as far as possible, to supply books intended to aid serious work, requiring literary matter not already on the shelves. An effort is made to obtain all books which may have been written by residents of the town.

**REVERE.** Delivery stations are maintained at Beachmont, Crescent Beach, Franklin Park and Revere Street. Books of reference are loaned to the high school, and teachers have the privilege of taking five books at one time for school work. The school children use the library freely. In the children's reading room books are kept suitable for children of the age of five years and upwards. The library possesses, by gift and loan, a valuable and interesting collection in its historical department.

**ROCHESTER.** The library is being classified, and a card catalogue is being prepared by the Dewey system. Teachers are allowed to take as many books as they require for school work. Books, particularly in the line of nature studies, with especial reference to their use in the schools, have been purchased.

**ROCKLAND.** The new Carnegie building, a brief description of which was given in the report of last year, was dedicated May

5, 1905. The principal address was by Hon. John D. Long, who spoke for an hour or more on the advantages of the public library to the community, and the value of soldiers' memorials in keeping alive the spirit of patriotism. The building is a memorial to the soldiers and sailors of Rockland who served in the civil war. A fine crayon portrait of the late Miss Amelia Pool, who was librarian of the library from its inception in 1878 until her resignation in July, 1897, has been presented by Miss Angela W. Collins; and an oil portrait of the late Maria Louise Pool, the Rockland author, has been given by Mrs. C. M. Branson. Other gifts have been received, which adorn the new building.

ROCKPORT. In March, 1904, the town voted to accept the books of the Pigeon Cove Library, and to maintain a branch library in that village. Previously the library had been maintained by the Pigeon Cove Library Association, assisted for a number of years by appropriations by the town. This branch is desirable for the convenience of the people in that section of the town, especially for the young, as there are times when it is inconvenient to go to the main library. The new building for the main library, a description of which was given in the report of last year, is nearly or quite ready for occupancy.

ROWE. The library has received a set of cyclopedias from the Greenfield Public Library, and 75 volumes and 125 magazines from the City Library Association of Springfield. Teachers are allowed to take books for school work without a limit of time.

RUSSELL. Teachers may have four books on educational topics, which may be retained one month. A gift of desirable books has been received from the Brookline Public Library.

SALEM. The library has received \$500 from the estate of the late Capt. William J. Cheever of North Andover. George W. Williams, long time a trustee of the library and a trustee of the endowment fund of the American Library Association, died May 31, 1905.

SANDWICH. The circulation of 1904 showed a gain of 10 per cent. over that of 1903. Miss Julia C. Yard has presented valuable illustrated books and photographic views of Egypt and the Holy Land. John J. Crane has given \$25, a portion of which has been used in purchasing desirable historical works; and Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. Belcher have presented 54 volumes of the best and latest fiction, which has been a



very material aid. Teachers and scholars have a free use of the library, and they are assisted in every possible way. There are no delivery stations or branch libraries as yet, but plans are in view for the small outlying settlements.

SAUGUS. The statistics show a healthy growth, but the present room is too small for present and growing requirements, and the increasing call for books of reference cannot be wholly filled for lack of room. The administration of the library cannot, under existing circumstances, be improved, and a library building will be a necessity in the near future. The purchase of books especially for children has resulted in an increasing number of child borrowers. Care is taken to assist readers in the selection of books, and to help all, especially the young, to a higher plane of reading. Teachers are given liberal privileges, and are using the library freely. There are delivery stations at East Saugus, Cliftondale and West Cliftondale, and books are carried to North Saugus and Oaklandvale.

SHARON. By the will of the late Mrs. Olive E. Hayden of Boston the library was made a residuary legatee, and received \$1,622.45, with a portion of which a lot of land at the corner of North Main and High streets has been purchased, with the intention of offering it to the voters as a site for a library building. This transaction has received the hearty approval of many citizens. Under the favorable conditions before established of shelving and distributing books, the circulation of 1904 reached the largest number in the history of the library, averaging 6 volumes per capita, which the trustees claim is a larger number than shown by any library in that vicinity. The percentage of fiction was 74.28. The open-shelf system is in use. "At times, during the hours of distributing, the aisles between the stacks are too crowded for comfort or satisfactory choice of books, either in juvenile or other sections. This arises in part from the lack of shelving room within reach of patrons, and to overcome it will soon be a serious problem for the trustees." Exhibition loans have been received from the Woman's Education Association.

SHELburnE FALLS. Arms Public Library. In addition to the author and title catalogues, which have been in use several years, a subject catalogue and a topical catalogue of important magazine articles are being prepared. Access to the shelves of the adult department is limited to teachers, clergymen and professional men generally. Books much in use are placed where they may be readily inspected.

SHERBORN. The library room is at present very much crowded.

A bookcase with a capacity of over 300 volumes has been installed in the delivery room, and in it placed all the books purchased during the year, with miscellaneous literature and some books of reference. This has been welcomed by readers; and has prepared the way for open shelves when the town places more room at the disposal of the trustees.

SHIRLEY. The use of the library by the public, especially by the young, is very gratifying, although it is sometimes a problem how to meet the growing demand among the school children for books of science, nature study and history, and at the same time meet the demands of the public at large. Teachers and scholars are allowed almost any number of books for school work. A complete file of the annual reports of the town of Shirley, since they were first published in pamphlet form, has been collected, bound and placed on the reference shelves. Few libraries in the State have performed a like service for their towns.

SHREWSBURY. Access to the shelves, upon requesting permission of the librarian and subject to certain limitations, has been allowed. The advantages derived from a closer and more intimate acquaintance with the resources of the library are thought to more than outweigh any objections which may be made to the plan. Special privileges for purposes of study are given to clergymen and teachers, and an unlimited use of books is allowed for school work. Arrangements have been made with the Free Public Library of Worcester, by which books not obtainable in this library may be borrowed from the Worcester library, upon compliance with certain conditions. The age limit has been reduced from twelve to seven years. Pictures and books have been loaned by the Woman's Education Association.

SOMERSET. A delivery station has been established at Pottersville, with good results. The public schools are using the library in a moderate degree. Loans of pictures and books have been received from the Woman's Education Association. The will of the late Mrs. Sarah Hood contains a bequest of \$2,500 for the building of a library building.

SOMERVILLE. The circulation of 1904 showed an increase of about 13 per cent. The librarian writes: "Turnstiles have been installed at the entrance of each stack room. These were put in in order to detect people who take out books without having them properly charged. In the rush that prevails at certain

hours, some of our readers, to save time, took out books without having them charged at the desk. Such books, of course, were counted as lost. The turnstiles were installed to break up this practice. For several weeks at the end of the school year the library gave an exhibit of penmanship. This was done in co-operation with the supervisor of penmanship in the public schools, who was at the library several hours each day. Every teacher in the city was requested by the superintendent of schools to take her pupils to the library at a certain hour to view the exhibit. The supervisor took each room separately, and explained all the methods which he desired to impress upon the minds of the pupils. After the supervisor had delivered his lecture, our school librarian took the children and showed them the school librarian's room and the children's room, and offered an application blank to every child who would receive it. In this way we reached nearly every pupil that attends the public schools, brought them in direct contact with the library, and secured nearly all of them as regular readers. Hundreds, perhaps thousands, of children who had never used the library were in this way brought into relation with it. The library now has six delivery stations. The service performed by these stations is not trained service, and in many ways it is unsatisfactory, but it is hoped that these stations may eventually be superseded by branch libraries, where trained service may be employed. The library's relations with the schools continue pleasant and profitable. It has a special school librarian, who devotes her time almost exclusively to school work. Every school in the city is permitted to take forty books, and if the room has more than forty scholars, it may take books equal to the number of scholars. Out of the two hundred and twenty-seven schoolrooms in the city, one hundred and ten were supplied with these special libraries last year. The desire is to supply every schoolroom, and constant purchases are being made to this end. The Sunday service is growing. Ten Sunday-schools now use our books, and an effort is being made to extend the service generally throughout the Sunday-schools of the city. The Y. M. C. A. is supplied with books, as are the police station and the city stables." Books are delivered at the homes of the people by delivery boys, who receive 2 cents per book for the round trip, to and from the library.



**SOUTHAMPTON.** The circulation is increasing since the opening of the new building. The books have been classified and a card catalogue prepared. The teachers of the public schools have a practically unrestricted use of the library, and they are advised of the offer of the Forbes Library of Northampton, by which books of that library are placed at their disposal. A six-months use of a special library and collection of pictures relating to Venice is offered by the Woman's Education Association.

**SOUTHBRIDGE.** The former steady increase in home circulation continues, and each year the library does a larger reference work. With the assistance of a high school teacher, a list of suggested reading for the use of high school pupils has been published, and talks on the use of reference books have been given to groups of high school pupils. Several hundred pictures have been mounted and circulated in the schools. A collection of books left by the late Holmes Ammidown is being catalogued. The vital statistics of Massachusetts towns, furnished by the State, are acknowledged as "of great value to the student of Massachusetts history and genealogy." Exhibitions of pictures from the Library Art Club and the Woman's Education Association have been given.

**SOUTH HADLEY.** William H. Gaylord, the donor of the Gaylord Memorial Library building, died Dec. 22, 1904. By his will he added to his gifts for library purposes, leaving the sum of \$15,000, the income of which is to be used for the expenses of running and maintaining the building and grounds.

**SOUTHWICK.** The teachers of the public schools have special privileges in drawing and retaining books for school work.

**SPENCER.** A bronze tablet has been placed upon the wall of the reading room by the Massachusetts Order of the Loyal Legion, in memory of Edward Reed Wheeler, M.D., who died April 30, 1904. Dr. Wheeler was for twenty years one of the most active of the trustees of the library, and for many years was chairman of the board. Much of the usefulness and present equipment of the library is due to him; and to him is due also, in large measure, the present library accommodations, for to him Mr. Sugden turned for advice in planning the building and in providing means for its support and future growth.

**SPRINGFIELD.** Andrew Carnegie has given the association \$150,000 for the erection of a new library building. By the will

of the late James P. Gray a large income will be received in time, to be used for the purchase of paintings. This bequest, the principal of which will amount to over half a million dollars, is made on the condition that the association will erect a suitable building. Besides these gifts, subscriptions have been received from citizens of Springfield which free the association from debt. The statistics of 1904 show a steady growth. The distributing agencies increased to 246, and the home circulation gained about 9 per cent. The percentage of fiction, both adult and juvenile, issued at the main library, was 60.7. The crowded condition of the library has been greatly relieved by the provision in the basement of a periodical reading room and a children's room. Since the children's department has been removed to its new quarters its work has steadily increased. Two hundred and twenty-three children completed the course of vacation reading, and in no case was credit given where the child could not show that the books had been read understandingly. Librarians visiting the children's room have remarked upon the unusually good appearance of the books. This may be attributed in part to the fact that during the summer about 1,200 of the books that had been in use in the schools were scrubbed in ammonia and water and brightened with a coat of shellac. The example of the Fairhaven library has been followed in giving new books purchased for this department a coat of shellac before putting them into circulation, with the result that they keep clean and attractive longer than is usual for books in such constant use. A circular letter was sent to each primary and grammar grade teacher in the city, calling attention to the resources of the juvenile department, and asking for co-operation in making its work more effective. Nearly 5,000 volumes were sent in lots of about 50 each to the teachers within a fortnight after the schools opened in the fall. Thousands of pictures relating to geographical and historical topics, biography, natural history and industrial and fine arts have been roughly classified, indexed and filed in folders, ready to be mounted either singly or in bulletins, as there is call for them. Some excellent half-tones illustrating the industries of the United States have been cut from recent numbers of the "Cosmopolitan" and mounted, making a set of very interesting bulletins, which have been especially appreciated by teachers of commercial geography. It is hoped that arrangements will soon be completed for classes from the

schools to visit the library for instruction in the use of the card catalogue and reference books, and the method of finding material on various subjects. Good progress has been made in recataloguing the medical books of the library. They are to be kept in a separate room, where they will be more convenient for use by the physicians of the city, and out of the way of the general public. An exhibition of the materials, tools and processes of book binding, with examples of different styles of binding, loaned by John C. Dana of the Newark Public Library, was held for two weeks in the new art room, and attracted many visitors, including several teachers with their classes and librarians from neighboring towns. Besides the four stations classed as branch libraries, collections of books numbering from 50 to 100 each are supplied to several Sunday-schools, and deposits of books are placed in twelve fire-engine houses and in two ungraded schools for neighborhood use. A home delivery is carried on for about thirty-six weeks of the year by one of the library staff, who assumes the financial responsibility, and is paid by the subscribers for the service. A person may borrow one work of fiction and any reasonable number of works of non-fiction at the same time, but one borrower's card being required. A special stamp is used to indicate fiction, and one card makes matters simpler for both desk assistants and borrowers. The library has received, under the will of the late Dr. Phebe A. Sprague, her medical library of about 350 volumes; and Mrs. William P. Mattoon has presented 41 opera scores, a valuable addition to the music department.

STOCKBRIDGE. The librarian reports that the library is much used by the school children during the morning hours, and that the longer open hours are evidently much appreciated by the older patrons. The superintendent of schools is now authorized to draw as many as twenty-five books at one time, to be used as reference books in connection with school work; and he has been requested to co-operate with the librarian in the preparation of lists of books in the library on subjects of special current interest, or connected with school courses, and on subjects appropriate to holidays and special seasons, that they may be brought to the attention of the school children. The book committee is to make a special endeavor to collect all works about Stockbridge and Berkshire County, also works written by residents of Stockbridge, and works otherwise of local



interest, to be placed together. Means are being taken for the establishment of branches at Glendale and Interlaken. The Bodley Club service has been discontinued. A registered record of borrowers is being made for the first time.

STONEHAM. The library was closed for about two months in 1904, during the removal and rearrangement of the books in the new building; but the circulation of the year showed an increase of nearly 15 per cent. Open shelves and the two-book system have been adopted.

STOUGHTON. Upon the removal to the new building a new registration was begun; and, as there was ample space, the shelves were thrown open to the public. This privilege has proved to be popular, and more attention has been given to standard works. The circulation of 1904 showed an increase of about 15 per cent. The reading rooms are well attended by children and young people. In response to what appeared to be a general demand, the reading rooms were opened on Sunday afternoons. As the attendance has been very irregular, Sunday opening may be considered as an experiment. Classes of the high school are taken to the library on specified days for instruction in its use.

STURBRIDGE. There was a liberal increase both in registration and circulation in 1904. Ten exhibitions of pictures were given, and the Woman's Education Association gave the loan of the Audubon Library for six months. Teachers are allowed six books at a time for school purposes. There is a weekly messenger service to Fiskdale.

SUNDERLAND. The late Henry W. Taft of Pittsfield, who was a liberal giver of books during his lifetime, left by will 153 volumes, valued at about \$500, to the library. These have been received, and make an important addition to the library. They are largely in relation to the history of New England towns and New England families, and some of them are extremely rare and of great value.

SUTTON. The branch at Wilkinsonville, after having been closed for several years, was put in order and reopened in 1904. The circulation has increased, and the library has been made more useful by many new books secured by exchange with the other branches. Bookcases have been bought for the South Sutton branch, and a larger number of magazines provided. The West Sutton branch has a room in the old Masonic Hall, which has proved to be a convenient and comfortable location. The use of this library has increased.

SWANSEA. The library received in February \$500 from the estate of the late John S. Brayton of Fall River. This is to be known as the John S. Brayton Fund, the income of which will be used for the purchase of books. Weekly deliveries are made at Swansea Centre, North Swansea and Hortonville. Each borrower at the stations has two cards, to be used alternately, so that a book may be received when one is returned, without the trouble of going twice to the station for one exchange. The librarian has, with the co-operation of trustees and teachers, endeavored to establish relations with the public schools. Thus far there have been good results from the effort. Teachers are allowed a large number of books for school use, and are invited to visit the library and to send their pupils to consult reference books, and these are aided by the librarian as opportunity offers. The librarian visits the schools as often as possible, to ascertain the lines of studies and other work, in order that books may be purchased which may aid the pupils. The superintendent of schools presents lists of books which, in his estimation, will be of use in the schools.

TAUNTON. The circulation of 1904 was far below that of recent years, showing the lowest daily average of any year since 1874. This is attributed "to the lack of newly purchased books during the prolonged period of reclassifying and cataloguing preparatory to the transfer of the books to the new building, and in part to the suspension of the delivery of books from September 10 to the end of the fiscal year." A card catalogue of more than 30,000 volumes has been completed, together with separate catalogues of adult fiction and of books for the young, and an official card shelf list of the books of the circulating and reference departments. Books are classified by the decimal system.

TEMPLETON. A classified list has been printed, and was ready for distribution in June. A shelf list has been made, but the situation of the villages of the town required a printed rather than a card catalogue. The library has begun to furnish the public schools with supplementary reading. It is hoped that this experiment, begun on a small scale, will develop in a manner which will greatly aid both teachers and scholars.

Tewksbury. Realizing the interest which is taken in the library by the children, more juvenile books have been purchased, which accounts in part for an increased circulation in 1904. Fortnightly deliveries are made to stations at Wamesit, South Tewksbury, Wigginvill and the North West District. The

library is well used by the teachers and pupils of the public schools in school work.

TOWNSEND. The Dewey classification is daily meeting the approval of the reading public, and has greatly facilitated matters for those who have the work in charge. A donation of \$50 was received from Edward Ordway of Cambridge, to help defray the expenses of cataloguing. A delivery station at West Townsend is maintained by Mrs. Charles S. Homer. Deliveries are made on each Saturday, and the reading in that section has more than doubled since books have become available to the residents. There is a hearty co-operation between the library and the schools. Special provisions have been made for the teachers and pupils of the high school. The library, though small, is doing a quiet and certain work among the people.

TRURO. The schools have free access to the library. There are two branch libraries, the books of which are exchanged semi-annually. The increase of the library is due to the generosity of friends.

TYNGSBOROUGH. A new library building was dedicated on the evening of Sept. 29, 1905, the principal address being by Solon W. Stevens. Short addresses were made by others, and a musical programme was furnished by the Albion Male Quartet of Boston. The building is of one story, constructed of brick, and has a capacity of 20,000 volumes. It was made possible by a bequest in the will of the late Mrs. Lucy Littlefield, which gave \$5,000 to the town for this purpose. To this sum the town added an appropriation of \$2,500. The library is henceforth to be known as the Littlefield Library, in memory of the daughter of Mrs. Littlefield, whose portrait is to be placed upon its walls. Besides her bequest for the building, Mrs. Littlefield provided a fund, now estimated to be about \$4,000, to be held in trust by the town, and its income to be devoted exclusively to the purchase of books. The books have been classified by the Dewey system, except the fiction, which is arranged by the Cutter author tables. Two books are allowed, the Browne system of charging is used, and the shelves are open to the public. The library building is next to the schoolhouse, and the teachers are allowed to use the library for study or reference at any time.

TYRINGHAM. The new library building was dedicated Aug. 9, 1905. The occasion brought together a large audience, including



members and friends of the Berkshire Historical and Scientific Society, and many distinguished guests, it being one of the events of Old Home Week. The oration was by Charles W. Bosworth of Springfield, a grandson of the town, and an original poem was read by Richard Watson Gilder. A number of volumes came in connection with the dedication, and the donations still continue. The building is constructed of round lichen-covered field stone and red tile, with the interior finished in natural woods and a huge rustic stone chimney. It is situated on the most prominent corner in the town, and contains rooms for the selectmen and the town clerk. The cost is about \$4,000, of which \$1,300 is from a town appropriation, the balance being from subscriptions and donations of materials. The library now contains about 2,000 volumes, and is open two evenings and one afternoon each week. There are no branches, as the limits of the town are narrow; but the library is near the centre school (now alone open), and it is assumed that the pupils act as carriers for the books to all parts of the town. Teachers are allowed twenty books at a time for school use and a liberal number for home use.

UXBRIDGE. There was a slight increase in the circulation for home use in 1904. The winter months of the early year were stormy, which prevented people, especially children, from going to the library. The town is so divided into villages that a large percentage of the people find it most difficult to reach the building in inclement weather. The increase was wholly during the last months of the year, when the roads were open, and the children, who are to a great extent the book carriers, were able to go freely to and fro. A system of deliveries at the outlying villages would largely extend the benefits of the library. More people are using the reference library. Instruction in the use of the card catalogue and in reference work has been given to classes from the grammar school, and individual instruction is given when needed. Many of the pupils of the high and grammar schools are familiar enough with the books to work independently. The reference department is more used by these children than by any other class of people. Teachers in the lower grades have introduced library books to their pupils by reading portions of them aloud during school hours. This seems to be an almost sure way of awakening interest. Books so introduced are seldom upon the shelves for more than a day or two at a time. An important work is

being done by the collection of photographs illustrative of Uxbridge past and present. The trustees have received a formal notification of a bequest in the will of the late Mrs. Julia Thayer of Keene, N. H., of \$5,000, the income of which is to be used for the maintenance of the library, or for the care and maintenance of the library building, at the discretion of the trustees. Charles A. Taft, president of the trustees, died March 31, 1904. He was one of the six permanent trustees appointed by Mr. Thayer upon his donation of the Thayer Memorial Building.

**WAKEFIELD.** The work of this library is performed under many difficulties, owing chiefly to lack of space. The rooms in the town hall were long since outgrown, and the need of a library building is most urgent. Some relief has been gained by shelving an upper room in the building, but the gain is only temporary. The trustees, as in former years, have continued to add current fiction, believing that it should have a place in a town library; but no effort has been made to supply the immediate great demand for well-advertised books, leaving this for the commercial circulating libraries. A semi-weekly delivery has been established at Greenwood. A card catalogue has been nearly or quite brought up to date.

**WALES.** The town has increased its annual appropriation, and the library has added to its number of magazines.

**WALPOLE.** The attractiveness of the new building two years ago was not sufficient to offset the increased distance from the centre of the town, and the circulation fell off accordingly, but there was a gradual increase in 1904, particularly in the number of books sent through the delivery stations. By the will of the late Mrs. Catherine Leland the library has received a bequest of \$500, and a handsome clock, which has been placed in the trustees' room. The Bodley Club books have been discontinued, and 100 Tabard Inn books purchased. These are exchanged as occasion requires, and the method has been found to be satisfactory in supplying current fiction. The collection of foreign views has been supplemented by stereoscopic views, representing tours in the most picturesque and interesting localities of the United States. Lists of books, prepared by the teachers of the high school, are kept at the library for the use of the pupils, who are required to read and report on one book a month as a part of their work in English literature.

**WALTHAM.** The circulation of 1904 gave a substantial increase over that of the preceding year, with a slight increase in the percentage of fiction, which was 87.8. The trustees say: "We have noted, in common with others who have charge of public libraries in our land, the growing demand for fiction. While we may, to a certain extent, regret the prevalence of public taste in that direction, we feel that we cannot ignore the demand. Even those accustomed to what is called solid reading seek just and pleasant recreation in the best fiction. . . . With a view of gratifying the demand for fiction of better and more permanent character, we have replenished our shelves with new sets, such as Dickens, Scott, Hawthorne, Marryat, Bayard Taylor and other authors of the past generation, whose works have stood the test of time as standard literature, and should be as interesting in the present as they were in the past." All books in history and biography have been classified and catalogued by the Dewey system. Ten books are allowed each teacher in the public schools.

**WARE.** Teachers and pupils of the public schools are allowed access to the shelves, and may take any number of books for school work.

**WAREHAM.** The circulation of 1904 gave a slight gain over that of 1903. A small room has been fitted up for reference books; and the shelves are already well filled. The collector of the port of New Bedford has presented five passports, issued between the years 1821 and 1842, bearing the signatures of Presidents and Secretaries of State. These have been suitably framed, and hung in the reading room. By the will of Mrs. Betsey Besse the library has received a bequest of \$500.

**WARREN.** A delivery station is maintained at West Warren. A bust of Gen. Joseph Warren has been placed in the library by the Tuesday Club, and a cast of "The Boy and the Thorn" has been given by the president of the association, Hon. Wilson H. Fairbank.

**WARWICK.** The circulation in 1904, per capita, was 6.6. Additional accommodations for the library are urgently needed. The shelves are almost entirely filled, and their crowded condition interferes with the proper arrangement of the books. An enlargement of the present room, or a separate library building, will soon be a necessity.

**WATERTOWN.** The work of the library has gone on quietly and effectively, and, judging from the increased use that has been



made of its books and magazines, to the satisfaction and profit of its many patrons. The home circulation of 1904 was larger than that of any previous year. After a trial of several years, it was found that the number of people using the library on Sundays was not sufficient to warrant the keeping open of the whole library on that day; and it was decided to close the upper rooms, and to open the Pratt reading room from 4 in the afternoon to 8 in the evening. Fourteen exhibits of the collections of the Library Art Club were given in 1904. "While the chief value of these exhibits is to help students of art or those who are preparing to reap the benefits of travel, they may be of interest to very many who by reading and the use of pictures avoid the expense and discomforts of an ocean voyage, and yet gain substantial advantages." The card catalogue is outgrowing the cases in which it is kept. One of the pressing needs is a new and enlarged case for the public catalogue.

WAYLAND. "To increase the use of the library by the townspeople is an end to which the trustees would strive. On the initiative of Mr. Joseph T. Corlew, superintendent of schools, an effort towards this has been made by the co-operation of the schools. A committee of the teachers has been appointed by the superintendent to act in connection with the trustees in the selection of books purchased for juvenile reading, and a catalogue of this department is held by the teachers. It is proposed that they require the reading of books suggested by them as a part of the school work, and that reports as to the results, as shown by compositions and discussions on books read, shall be furnished by the teachers to the trustees. In addition to the obvious benefits to be obtained by this in the school work, an important result aimed at is the teaching of the rising generation to use the public library of their town, to acquire the habit of doing this, and to familiarize them with its privileges." The library has received from Mrs. William F. Matchett a cabinet for its ancient and historical books and manuscripts. With the present facilities for their safety and display, it is hoped that similar books and papers, which are now precariously preserved in private houses, may be added to the collection by gift or loan. The trustees recommend the establishment of a reading room at Cochituate, about three miles distant, where there is now a delivery station. The will of the late Mrs. Cynthia C. Roby, which was filed in November, contains a bequest of \$4,000 for the benefit

of the library. The library building was a gift under the will of the husband of Mrs. Roby, the late Warren G. Roby.

WELLESLEY. Miss Julia F. Jennings, who had been librarian since the establishment of the library in 1887, resigned in the fall of 1904, and Miss Florence M. Osborne, a graduate of Wellesley College and a pupil in the library department of Simmons College, was elected to fill the vacancy. She has entered upon her duties under conditions which seem auspicious for a successful incumbency. The reading room has been improved by the removal of the delivery desk to the main room of the library, and new wall cases have been put in. Small tables and chairs have been placed in several alcoves, as a convenience to patrons. The teachers of the public schools are allowed as many books as they need for school use and for the use of their pupils. The library is being catalogued by the Dewey system. Books are delivered and collected weekly at Wellesley Hills and Newton Lower Falls.

WENDELL. The circulation has increased, and much interest has been shown by the teachers of the public schools. Besides the books loaned to the Farley branch, which are changed semi-annually, books are loaned to the Centre Sunday-school. Miss Fannie Hinsdale, a former resident of Wendell, left a real estate mortgage of \$800 to the town for library purposes. The trustees say in their report: "Inquiries show that the property has depreciated, and probably is not worth more than \$500. Next year the town will be free from debt, and it would seem desirable to add enough to the amount so generously given by Miss Hinsdale to erect a suitable library building."

WENHAM. The work of this library has been continued along the same general lines for several years. The trustees say: "We have endeavored to conduct it in such a manner as to satisfy the demands of the various classes of readers. Possibly, if we have erred, it has been in catering too much to the popular demand for the merely entertaining rather than the more so-called solid literature, although the educational features have by no means been neglected." The percentage of fiction delivered in 1904 was 79.66. Additional room is becoming a necessity. Delivery stations are maintained at East Wenham, West Wenham and Wenham Neck, which have heretofore been incorrectly classed as branch libraries.

WESTBOROUGH. The reading and reference rooms are under the constant supervision of the librarians, who are ever ready to assist visitors in securing such books of reference or reading

matter as they may desire. The reading room is supplied with the best of American and English publications, which are placed upon the tables within the reach of all who wish to consult them. This department of the library is very complete, much used and highly appreciated by the public. Eleven exhibitions of the Library Art Club were given in 1904.

**WEST BOYLSTON.** The library has been removed from its old quarters in the second story of a building opposite the old high schoolhouse to more commodious rooms in the town hall building. It is in close relation with the public schools. Any books may be taken to the schools and retained during the term, if there is no call for them at the library. In the selection of books the trustees have endeavored to provide the best of the current fiction, but at the same time, recognizing the more or less transitory value of these, have also added others of a more permanent value. Efforts are being made to have the library complete in books relating to the history of West Boylston and the neighboring towns.

**WEST BROOKFIELD.** The library seeks to work with the schools. A card catalogue of history and travel has been placed in the high school, and the district teachers take many books. In the library, books for second and third grades have been placed upon a special shelf, thereby practically removing the age limit, which was eight years.

**WESTFIELD.** The circulation of 1904 made the liberal increase of 25 per cent. over that of 1903. The reading rooms are taxed to their uttermost at times. Frequently there are not one-half enough chairs for the children in their room. The card catalogue is practically finished, and the library has been enlarged and enriched in all its departments. A larger number of volumes were purchased in 1904 than ever before in one year. The average cost of 1,205 volumes, 30 per cent. being of adult fiction, was \$1.02. In reference to school work the librarian writes: "Special attention has been given the past year to work with the schools. A local organization of citizens has been formed, much like that which has for some time been in existence in Brookline, for the purpose of bringing the parents in closer touch with the work of the schools. Various committees have been appointed. Among them is one on the library and library uses, of which the librarian of the Athenæum is chairman. This committee visits the schools to note how the reading lists prepared by the library are used and



may be improved, and to receive and give suggestions as to how the library may be of larger use to the individual scholars and for class work. This committee began its work last spring, but already it is proving of advantage, and it is believed that it will largely aid both the schools and the library. Many lists of books are prepared for distribution among the scholars, on topics connected with their studies. Thus far these lists have been chiefly historical, but it is expected that later they will include not only nature study books and books of travel, but also sports, civics and literature." Large additions have been made to the volumes in the children's department, which has led to a larger attendance of children. Nearly every month pictures from the Library Art Club are on exhibition. Stereoscopic views form a permanent collection which is in everyday use, and furnish a useful means of imparting geographical and historical knowledge.

**WESTFORD.** Delivery stations are maintained at Graniteville, Parkerville, Forge Village and Brookside, with gratifying results. The circulation of 1904 exceeded that of 1903, and the trustees comment upon "the remarkably large proportion of books, other than fiction, read." The library aims to make itself of use to the public schools. Class talks are given on the exhibitions of the Library Art Club in the lecture room; and during the spring months talks were given on the common birds of that vicinity, illustrated by specimens from the library collection. New stacks have been put in. Joseph Rutter Draper, M.D., a trustee of the library, died Oct. 30, 1904; and Prof. William E. Frost, who had been a trustee for fifteen years, serving most of the time as chairman of the board, died on November 30 following. Portraits of these gentlemen have been presented to the library, with portraits of other prominent citizens.

**WESTHAMPTON.** The teachers of the public schools have free access to the library, and through them the books are circulated in most of the families. The children of the Sunday-school can get books at noon on Sundays.

**WESTMINSTER.** There has been a steady increase in the use of the library, both in the reading room and in home circulation. The teachers of the public schools have endeavored, with much success, to interest their pupils in its use as an aid and supplement to school work. The Fitchburg Public Library has loaned books, which have been of great value to students taking

special studies. A collection of school drawings and paintings has been exhibited in the children's room during the summer. A card catalogue is being prepared.

**WEST NEWBURY.** The library building has been repaired and painted, and new shelving has been put in. The librarian writes: "Our means are so limited that we are cramped in our work. However, we keep up a good interest among the young, and the school children are using more books than ever before."

**WESTPORT.** Westport Free Public Library. A reading room has been opened in connection with the library, which as yet is not very successful. The people seem to prefer to take their reading to their homes.

Westport Point Library. As stated in our last report, this is a free public library, under private control. With a village population of less than 200, its circulation was 1,453 volumes for the year ending August, 1905. It is in urgent need of accessions, particularly in the department for young people.

Westport Public Library. This library, at the head of Westport, is the largest in the town, having now about 1,800 volumes. It has branches at South Westport and Brownell's Corner, which are about four miles from the main library, in opposite directions. It has no income, and depends upon gifts and entertainments. It has a card catalogue by the Dewey-Cutter system. The Browne system of charging is used, and each person is allowed two books. The books are always at the disposal of the school children, and are freely used.

**WEST STOCKBRIDGE.** "More books are being taken out than when the population was a half larger; and one of the encouraging facts is that the increased number of books taken goes mostly among the young." Mrs. S. L. Blake of the grammar school has been successful in interesting her pupils in the library, and has prepared several school entertainments for its benefit. An entertainment during the present year resulted in \$86, which procured a new oak desk and chair and a card catalogue of the library.

**WESTWOOD.** Books are sent to the schoolhouse at Islington, and are cared for by the teacher in charge of the school.

**WEYMOUTH.** Tufts Library. Weekly deliveries are made at five delivery stations, of which the Fogg Memorial Library at South Weymouth is one. Forty-five per cent. of the circulation of 1904 was distributed in this way. A new case has been placed in the delivery room, and the work of revising

the catalogue is being done. Boxes of books are sent to the more remote schools. There was a slight gain in the circulation of 1904, and a slight decrease in the percentage of fiction loaned, this, too, in spite of the number of juvenile books, classed as fiction, that have been loaned to the lower-grade schools. There has been an increased use of reference books. A portrait of Amos S. White, who was a member of the board of trustees from its organization until his death, and its faithful clerk and treasurer for most of that period, has been presented by Edmund S. Hunt. In June an exhibition of the drawing classes of the public schools was given, which proved of value as an advertisement of the library.

WHITMAN. A return to the customary appropriation, which had been reduced in 1903, made it possible to purchase more books in 1904, and to satisfy to a greater degree the constant demand for new books. A new catalogue case has been provided. As the public becomes accustomed to the card catalogue, its advantages over any catalogue that can be printed are recognized. The trustees appeal for better room accommodations. In more suitable quarters both the library and reading room would more effectually do the work for which they are maintained.

WILBRAHAM. In connection with school work, the school superintendent and teachers are requested to suggest books which will be helpful, and these are always added to the library.

WILLIAMSBURG. Haydenville Public Library. Its books and magazines have reached nearly every family in the village, besides furnishing reading to many transient visitors. The trustees say: "During the past two years we have made it a rule to buy what books we could afford as they come out from month to month, instead of buying in one lot at the close of the year, as formerly, and have found this the more acceptable way, both to our patrons and ourselves, in the ease of preparing them for circulation. The trustees, librarian and others connected with the library feel that it is doing a good work in our village, and has provided a valuable adjunct to the best modern progress, not only that it is used so widely, but that great pains are taken in the selection of books entered on our shelves, so that none can receive harm from the books taken from our library."

WILLIAMSTOWN. The two libraries in this town share in the town appropriation and are under the same board of trustees, but they are independent in other respects. At the Williamstown



Public Library new shelves have been added, giving much-needed room. At present little can be done for the public schools, but it is endeavored to work with the teachers as much as possible.

WILMINGTON. Books are catalogued by the Dewey and Cutter systems. Each teacher in the public schools is entitled to six books at one time for school work.

WINCHENDON. The library is working in a helpful way with the schools. Teachers have extra cards, and books are sent to the schools to be used in school work as needed. The library occupies a room in the town hall building, and no great change or improvement in library work can be hoped for in its present crowded quarters.

WINCHESTER. The circulation of 1904 showed a liberal increase over that of 1903. The most pressing problem has been the need of more room. Temporary expedients have met the present demand. Besides the lack of shelf room, there is insufficient space for workers and inadequate provision for readers. So far as material goes, the library is well equipped to be of great assistance in educational work. The privilege of admission to the shelves has been extended to readers as far as is practicable; and it is hoped that some time more space may be had, so that all may go to the shelves and have room enough there to consult the books conveniently. The plan of reserving books has proved of great convenience to those who have used it. On request, any one, by paying for a postal card, will be notified of the return of a book, and it will be retained for them twenty-four hours. A small collection of books, renewed from time to time, has been kept at the Wadleigh school for circulation among the scholars, under the supervision of the principal. As a further means of interesting the school children in the library, the librarian has prepared several lists of books on special subjects suggested by the school committee. During the year the experiment of not covering new books has been tried, and the papers have been removed from such old books as have covers suitable for exposure. The result has been gratifying. The uncovered books prove so attractive that even the children often choose a book of travel or history, because the outside looks inviting. The catalogue cards of the Library of Congress are used for new books, and their use has been found to be so advantageous that it is intended to gradually replace the old cards so far as possible.

WINTHROP. The circulation of 1904 exceeded that of 1903. About 1,000 volumes have been taken from the stack room and placed on the shelves of the children's reading room, to which the children have free access. The card catalogue has been improved by the addition of cards issued by the Library of Congress.

WOBURN. The relations of the library with the public schools are harmonious, and every assistance possible is afforded to teachers and scholars in the use of the books on the shelves and of material to be found in the library. A teachers' card, conferring special privileges, is in use. Increase of cards has made the purchase of an additional catalogue case necessary. The actual limit of present shelving has been more than reached. This problem of more shelving faces most of the older libraries in Massachusetts. Plans for the relief of this difficulty here are being considered. For two years, for reasons unusual in the history of the library, deliveries were below the average; but the circulation of 1904 was nearly up to the usual amount. The attendance and deliveries in the children's room have increased, which is in part due to the teachers in the public schools, who have shown great interest in the work, especially those in the younger grades. They have encouraged the children to take books, as they believe it helps them in their school work. The children are allowed to make their own selection from the shelves, either for library or home use, and the privilege of taking two books is given. The work in this department is steadily improving, reaching more children every year, and bringing them into closer relations with the books provided for their use. The open shelf is allowed, as a thing which the people approve and a privilege which they should have, if they desire it. The annual report says: "On the other hand, the management is met by the chances of books being taken out and returned without charging, of theft, and of the utter mixing up of the order on the shelves, and of an increased amount of labor on the part of the force to put them in their places again. . . . As to the question of 'theft' in connection with the open system, I agree with those who are opposed to the system, that, outside of the classes of fiction and juveniles, there should be, in libraries of the size and value of ours, a more restricted access than prevails, even now, in our own. The future may develop here, as it has already in other places, a depletion of the shelves that may be appalling. The

New York Public Library, in its inexorable manner, reports immense losses in its branches from this cause, and a withdrawal of the privilege in several."

The Eunice Thompson Memorial Library. The prospect of erecting a building with the funds left by the late Jonathan Thompson, as a memorial to his wife, Eunice Thompson, bids fair to be soon realized. For this purpose the city holds property amounting to about \$20,000, of which \$5,000 will probably be used for a building. This library is entirely independent of the Woburn Public Library in its management.

WORCESTER. The most noticeable feature in 1904 was a large increase in the use of books. This growth was shown in the reference and circulating departments, in Sunday use, and in the distribution through the branches. It was manifested in a marked degree in the children's room. This increase was over 10 per cent., and was exclusive of the use of papers and magazines in the four reading rooms. Of the patrons of the children's room the librarian says: "It is especially interesting to listen to the names of children as they are called out by the attendants. Apparently two-thirds of them are of foreign origin, and it becomes very evident that in the immense use of books in the English language (no others are provided for children) our population is being made more homogeneous, and the work of the schools in making good American citizens is being very largely supplemented." Copies of the Bible for the blind in the Moon and Line types have been presented, and the library is now well furnished with books in the Line, American, Braille and Moon types. A most gratifying use is made of the medical library by doctors, medical students, nurses and advanced students, as well as persons intelligently interested in the study of disease, not belonging to those classes. The library has a large collection of photographs by the best European photographers, which are used for reference and for exhibitions. A frame with a movable back is used to display some of these in the children's room. One photograph at a time is shown, always a copy of a work by one of the great masters of art. It is intended to show a series of seven pictures by each artist. Thus children will have continuously before them a truly great work, and each picture will be exhibited long enough to make an impression. It is hoped that by presenting several pictures by the same artist some susceptible child may get the beginning



of a knowledge of the individual style and peculiar technique of the artist, and thus enter into a broader knowledge of the world of art. Talks on the pictures will be given by the children's librarian. A similar frame is to be placed in the reception room of the circulating department. Competitive examinations for the positions of senior and junior assistants have been introduced. Walter Kendall Shaw, late librarian of the Brockton Public Library, has been appointed assistant librarian, and has entered upon the duties of that situation.

WRENTHAM. A delivery station, with a weekly exchange, is maintained at Sheldonville. A station at Plainville has been discontinued upon the incorporation of that district as a separate town. Teachers in the public schools may have books for school use. A supplementary catalogue has been issued, for which a slight charge is made, "as it is believed that more care will be exercised in its preservation if a nominal fee is charged."

YARMOUTH. Free Social Library, South Yarmouth. The secretary writes: "We have for several years attempted to do a certain amount of good in trying to draw together the interests of the public schools and the public library. We have loaned the schools collections of books that would prove of value from an educational point of view, and have been much pleased with the result. I have found, from personal observation, that the children will read a class of books taken from the schoolroom, or read in the school, that they will not take from the public library; and it is this class of books, principally history and biography, with more or less of nature studies that we have placed in our schools from our public library. The children seem to think that the public library is a grand place to get interesting stories, and if they must get information, the schoolroom is the place for it. I am persuaded that the public library can do its best work in educating the young through branches established in our schools.

West Yarmouth Library. This library has been much improved in its condition by the addition of new members, who have proved helpful in various ways; and a substantial addition has been made to its collection of books. The persistent efforts of its members in holding entertainments and sales have been instrumental in obtaining funds for its support.

## THE WOMAN'S EDUCATION ASSOCIATION.

It is always a duty as well as a pleasure to note the work of the Woman's Education Association. With admirable foresight it has supplied for many years, and maintained with great efficiency, all the travelling libraries that could be utilized to advantage in the State, and some of its members have made annual tours of visitation to a group of the smaller libraries. These visits have always proved interesting, useful and inspiring. During the past year the chairman and secretary of the library committee of this association visited about a score of libraries in western Massachusetts, with productive and suggestive results. These visits bring those in charge of the small library in personal contact with persons who have the general interests of our libraries at heart, and whose words of advice and cheer help and stimulate.

Fifty-one travelling libraries, containing in the aggregate 1,409 volumes, are owned by the association. The returns from 42 of these libraries show a circulation of 3,997 volumes. On the basis of 1,000, the circulation was divided as follows: fiction, 527; travel, 142; biography, 84; periodicals, 59; art, 54; history, 44; natural science, 35; mechanic arts, 18; religion, 7; and agriculture, 2. The following 56 towns and villages were benefited by these libraries during the year:—

Acushnet,	Hyannis,	Russell,
Alford,	Knightsville (in	Rutland,
Annisquam,	Huntington),	Sandisfield,
Bedford,	Lakeville,	Shelburne Falls,
Bernardston,	Leverett,	Shrewsbury,
Billerica,	Littleville (in Ches-	Somerset,
Brimfield,	ter),	Southampton,
Cheshire,	Miller's Falls,	Southbridge,
Chilmark,	Monroe Bridge,	Swift River (in Cum-
Colrain,	Monterey,	mington),
Dana,	New Marlborough,	Wales,
East Freetown,	North Chester,	Washington,
Farley (in Erving),	Northfield,	Wendell,
Florida,	Oakham,	West Chesterfield,
Goshen,	Otis,	West Cummington,
Granville,	Paxton,	West Stockbridge,
Groveland,	Pelham,	West Worthington,
Hancock,	Petersham,	Wheelwright (in
Heath,	Plainfield,	Hardwick),
Huntington,	Rowe,	Windsor.

The special libraries number 10, including collections on Venice, Florence, Shakespeare, English architecture, Rome, Italian art, Egypt, French art, Spanish art and religion. New libraries are about to be put into service on Greek art, Dutch art and travel in France. The four Audubon libraries have been loaned to Sturbridge, Rutland, Northfield, Bernardston, Ashby, Townsend, South Yarmouth and Dennis, and have been heartily welcomed and widely circulated.

Twenty sets of pictures have been shown in 124 different places, and their utility has been demonstrated by many appreciative expressions of satisfaction. Two of the admirably prepared lists of books recommended for purchase have been issued by the association during the year, and have proved of great aid in guiding the purchases of small libraries.

#### THE LIBRARY ART CLUB.

The work of the Library Art Club is constantly increasing in importance and usefulness. There are now 90 exhibits and 117 members, mostly free public libraries, of which 87 are in Massachusetts. The sets have been exhibited 1,462 times. In addition to the educational and refining influence of these exhibits, they serve the purpose to attract many visitors to the libraries, and to increase the number of readers.

#### A. L. A. BOOK LIST.

The commission has supplied each free public library in the State with the numbers of the monthly book list published by the American Library Association which have thus far been issued. It is hoped that this list may be perfected and extended so as to prove a trustworthy guide in the purchase of books, especially for the smaller libraries.

The smaller libraries of the State as a whole are rendering excellent service, and in manifold ways justify the aid the State has given them. Since this commission was established, in 1890, it has expended about \$25,000 for the distribution of books to found and aid libraries in the small towns. It has aided the formation of over 100 libraries, and reinforced them and stimulated others by the distribution of books from the State. The commission has served entirely without compensation, it has paid nothing for clerical assistance, and of the allowance for travelling expenses of the members the average



annual expenditure has been about \$80 per annum, covering the expenses of two of its members who live remote from Boston, in attending the meetings, which have, with one or two exceptions, been held monthly since the commission was organized.

Profitable assistance, in some elastic and comparatively inexpensive form, is needed to maintain the highest standard of usefulness in different portions, especially the rural and sparsely settled parts of the State. Three means of such aid are suggested:—

1. The furnishing of a small allowance of new books at the discretion of the commission to a languishing library.

2. The voluntary service of competent persons, who would be willing to visit libraries under the direction of the commission, upon the payment of the expenses of travel by the State.

3. Some provision by which the commission could give aid to the unpaid, or nominally paid, librarians in the small towns, who would attend for a few weeks a summer library school.

A moderate amount would cover the expense of all needed aid in these directions.

C. B. TILLINGHAST.  
MABEL SIMPKINS AGASSIZ.  
SAMUEL SWETT GREEN.  
DELORAINÉ P. COREY.  
ELIZABETH P. SOHIER.

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APPENDIX I.

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NAMES

OF

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES

AND

NAMES OF LIBRARIANS.

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# NAMES OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND NAMES OF LIBRARIANS.

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
Abington, . . .	Abington Public Library, . . .	Helen M. Hunt.
North Abington, . . .	North Abington Branch, . . .	Gertrude M. Gleason.
Acton, . . .	Acton Memorial Library, . . .	Arthur F. Davis.
Acushnet, . . .	Acushnet Free Public Library, . . .	Elsie Collins.
Perry Hill, . . .	Perry Hill Branch, . . .	Cora B. Fuller.
Long Plain, . . .	Long Plain Branch, . . .	Sophronia W. Veazie.
Adams, . . .	Adams Free Public Library, . . .	Lucy C. Richmond.
Agawam, . . .	Agawam Free Public Library, . . .	Ralph Perry.
Feeding Hills, . . .	Feeding Hills Branch, . . .	S. Newell Smith.
Alford, . . .	Alford Free Town Library, . . .	Mrs. Rachel E. Ploss.
Amesbury, . . .	Amesbury Public Library, . . .	Alice C. Follansbee.
Amherst, . . .	Amherst Town Library, . . .	Mary M. Robinson.
North Amherst, . . .	North Amherst Public Library, . . .	Helen Craus.
Andover, . . .	Memorial Hall Library, . . .	Ballard Holt.
Arlington, . . .	Robbins Library, . . .	Elizabeth Jane Newton.
Arlington Heights, . . .	Arlington Heights Branch, . . .	M. Macie Seabury.
Ashburnham, . . .	Ashburnham Public Library, . . .	Lona M. Davis.
Ashby, . . .	Ashby Free Public Library, . . .	Eliza A. Kendall.
Ashfield, . . .	Ashfield Library Association, . . .	Julia A. Williams.
Ashland, . . .	Ashland Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Ellen M. Arnold.
Athol, . . .	Athol Free Public Library, . . .	-
Attleborough, . . .	Attleborough Public Library, . . .	Martha Tyrrie.
Auburn, . . .	Auburn Free Public Library, . . .	Josie E. Prouty.
Avon, . . .	Avon Public Library, . . .	H. Wallace Blanchard.
Ayer, . . .	Ayer Library, . . .	S. Adelaide Blood.
Barnstable, . . .	Sturgis Library, . . .	Elizabeth C. Nye.
Centerville, . . .	Centerville Free Public Library Association, . . .	Rose E. Hallett.
Cotuit, . . .	Cotuit Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Zeno S. Parker.
Hyannis, . . .	Hyannis Free Public Library, . . .	Elledda Jenkins Bradford.
Marston's Mills, . . .	Marston's Mills Library, . . .	Mrs. Elliott Baxter.
Osterville, . . .	Osterville Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Maurice Crocker.
West Barnstable, . . .	West Barnstable Branch, . . .	-
Barre, . . .	Barre Town Library, . . .	Carrie Emily Read.
Becket, . . .	Becket Athenæum, . . .	Mrs. Eliza Millard.
Bedford, . . .	Bedford Free Public Library, . . .	Fannie A. Wood.
Belchertown, . . .	Clapp Memorial Library, . . .	Lydia A. Barton.
Bellingham, . . .	Bellingham Free Public Library, . . .	Bertha Franklin.
Belmont, . . .	Belmont Public Library, . . .	Florence E. Whiteher.
Berkley, . . .	Berkley Public Library, . . .	Julia R. Burt.
Berlin, . . .	Berlin Free Public Library, . . .	Alice E. Babcock.
South Berlin, . . .	South Berlin Branch, . . .	John Walter.
Bernardston, . . .	Cushman Library, . . .	Mrs. Charles R. Hills.
Huckle Hill, . . .	Huckle Hill Branch, . . .	Mrs. C. S. Hale.
West Mountain, . . .	West Mountain Branch, . . .	Mrs. F. W. Putnam.
BEVERLY, . . .	Beverly Public Library, . . .	Martha P. Smith.
Beverly Farms, . . .	Beverly Farms Branch, . . .	Lillian A. Culbert.
BillERICA, . . .	Bennett Public Library, . . .	Fannie S. Paige.
Talbot Mills, . . .	Talbot Library, . . .	Lillie Bottomley.
Blackstone, . . .	Blackstone Free Public Library, . . .	Timothy E. Curran.
East Blackstone, . . .	East Blackstone Branch, . . .	Bessie Scott.
Millville, . . .	Millville Branch, . . .	Timothy E. Curran.
Blandford, . . .	Blandford Free Public Library, . . .	Hattie Parks Herrick.
North Blandford, . . .	North Blandford Branch, . . .	Mrs. Howard C. Waite.
Blair District, . . .	Blair District Branch, . . .	Mrs. Albert M. Ritter.
Bolton, . . .	Bolton Public Library, . . .	Fidelia C. Newton.
Boston, . . .	Public Library of the City of Boston, . . .	Horace G. Wadlin.
Brighton, . . .	Brighton Branch, . . .	Belle S. Hall.
Charlestown, . . .	Charlestown Branch, . . .	Elizabeth F. Cartée.
Dorchester, . . .	Dorchester Branch, . . .	Mrs. Elizabeth T. Reed.
East Boston, . . .	East Boston Branch, . . .	Ellen O. Walkley.
Jamaica Plain, . . .	Jamaica Plain Branch, . . .	Mary P. Swain.
Roxbury, . . .	Roxbury Branch, . . .	Helen M. Bell.
South Boston, . . .	South Boston Branch, . . .	Alice M. Robinson.
South End, . . .	South End Branch, . . .	Margaret A. Sheridan.
West End, . . .	West End Branch, . . .	Mrs. Eliza R. Davis.
West Roxbury, . . .	West Roxbury Branch, . . .	Carrie L. Morse.

*Names of Free Public Libraries and Names of Librarians — Con.*

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
Bourne, . . . .	Jonathan Bourne Public Library, . .	Mrs. Edith Florence Nickerson.
Boxborough, . . . .	Boxborough Free Public Library, . .	Mrs. Henry L. Priest.
Boxford, . . . .	Boxford Public Library, . . . .	Gratuitous services of ladies.
West Boxford, . . . .	West Boxford Public Library, . . . .	Nellie M. Spofford.
Boylston, . . . .	Boylston Public Library, . . . .	George L. Wright.
Braintree, . . . .	Thayer Public Library, . . . .	Abbie M. Arnold.
Brewster, . . . .	Brewster Ladies' Library Association.	Alma Rogers.
Bridgewater, . . . .	Bridgewater Public Library, . . . .	Lucia L. Christian.
Brimfield, . . . .	Brimfield Public Library, . . . .	Mary Anna Tarbell.
BROCKTON, . . . .	Brockton Public Library, . . . .	Frank Hayden Whitmore.
Campello, . . . .	Campello Branch, . . . .	Mrs. Susan A. Sampson.
Montello, . . . .	Montello Branch, . . . .	Mrs. Addie Howard.
Brookfield, . . . .	Merriek Public Library, . . . .	Eliza R. Hobbs.
East Brookfield, . . . .	East Brookfield Branch, . . . .	Arthur Davis.
Brookline, . . . .	Public Library of Brookline, . . . .	Louisa M. Hooper.
Coolidge Corner, . . . .	Coolidge Corner Station, . . . .	Alfred J. Hayman.
Boylston Street, . . . .	Boylston Station, . . . .	Catherine A. O'Brien.
Buckland, . . . .	Buckland Public Church Library, . . . .	Charles W. Trow.
Burlington, . . . .	Burlington Public Library, . . . .	Florence Isabell Foster.
CAMBRIDGE, . . . .	Cambridge Public Library, . . . .	Clarence Walter Ayer.
East Cambridge, . . . .	East Cambridge Branch, . . . .	Mary Curtis.
Canton, . . . .	Canton Public Library, . . . .	Mrs. Lucy D. Downes.
Carlisle, . . . .	Gleason Public Library, . . . .	Mrs. Mary A. Green.
Carver, . . . .	Carver Public Library, . . . .	Mrs. Bernice Esther Barrows.
North Carver, . . . .	North Carver Branch, . . . .	Rev. Oscar F. Stetson.
South Carver, . . . .	South Carver Branch, . . . .	Henry S. Griffith.
East Carver, . . . .	East Carver Branch, . . . .	Laura Bump.
West Carver, . . . .	West Carver Branch, . . . .	Blanche Vinal.
Charlemont, . . . .	Charlemont Free Town Library, . . . .	Juliet Bacon Smith.
Charlton, . . . .	Charlton Free Public Library, . . . .	Mrs. Hattie L. Carpenter.
Chatham, . . . .	Eldredge Public Library, . . . .	Mrs. Florence Howes Bond.
Chelmsford, . . . .	Adams Memorial Library, . . . .	Edwin R. Clark.
North Chelmsford, . . . .	North Chelmsford Library Association.	Emma J. Gay.
CHELSEA, . . . .	Fitz Public Library, . . . .	Medora Jennett Simpson.
Cheshire, . . . .	Cheshire Library Association, . . . .	Emma E. Martin.
Chester, . . . .	Chester Free Public Library, . . . .	Grace Alvord.
Chesterfield, . . . .	Chesterfield Free Public Library, . . . .	Mrs. Hugh B. Gray.
West Chesterfield, . . . .	West Chesterfield Branch, . . . .	Mrs. Gilbert B. Healy.
CHICOPEE, . . . .	Chicopee City Library, . . . .	Anne Alcott Smith.
Chicopee Falls, . . . .	Chicopee Falls Branch, . . . .	Emma E. Gorton.
Willimansett, . . . .	Willimansett Branch, . . . .	Grace E. Smith.
Chilmark, . . . .	Chilmark Free Library, . . . .	Mrs. Florence B. Mayhew.
Clarksburg, . . . .	Clarksburg Public Library, . . . .	Robert S. McKay.
Clinton, . . . .	Bigelow Free Public Library, . . . .	Charlotte L. Greene.
Cohasset, . . . .	Paul Pratt Memorial Library, . . . .	Sarah B. Collier.
Colrain, . . . .	Colrain Free Library, . . . .	Mrs. Katherine Holton Cram.
Adamsville, . . . .	Adamsville Branch, . . . .	Frank A. Brown.
Elm Grove, . . . .	Elm Grove Branch, . . . .	Mrs. Nelson Joy.
Christian Hill, . . . .	Christian Hill Branch, . . . .	Mrs. O. H. Taylor.
East Colrain, . . . .	East Colrain Branch, . . . .	Mrs. Arthur Dennison.
Concord, . . . .	Concord Free Public Library, . . . .	Helen Whitney Kelley.
Conway, . . . .	Conway Public Library, . . . .	Grace Pease.
Cottage City, . . . .	Cottage City Free Public Library, . . . .	Ethel Louise Barney.
Cummington, . . . .	Bryant Free Library, . . . .	Lorenzo H. Tower.
Dalton, . . . .	Dalton Free Public Library, . . . .	Mrs. M. E. Davison.
Dana, . . . .	Dana Centre Public Library, . . . .	Mrs. Susan E. Stevens.
North Dana, . . . .	North Dana Public Library, . . . .	Mrs. Ames W. Slate.
Danvers, . . . .	Peabody Institute Library, . . . .	Mrs. Emille D. Patch.
Dartmouth, . . . .	Dartmouth Free Public Library, . . . .	Mary A. Tucker.
South Dartmouth, . . . .	Southworth Library, . . . .	Helen A. Cushman.
Dedham, . . . .	Dedham Public Library, . . . .	Frances M. Mann.
Oakdale, . . . .	Oakdale Branch, . . . .	David C. Valentine.
East Dedham, . . . .	East Dedham Branch, . . . .	Joseph Meehan.
Deerfield, . . . .	South Deerfield Town Library, . . . .	Martha A. Pierce.
Deerfield, . . . .	Dickinson Library, . . . .	Robert Pelton Sibley.
Pocumtuck Valley Association, . . . .	Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association Library.	George Sheldon.
Dennis, . . . .	Jacob Sears Memorial Library, . . . .	Mrs. Nathan Sears.
Dighton, . . . .	Dighton Free Public Library, . . . .	Emma B. Horton.
Douglas, . . . .	Simon Fairfield Public Library, . . . .	-
Dover, . . . .	Dover Town Library, . . . .	Alma M. Chickering.
First Parish, . . . .	Barden Library, . . . .	Martha E. Colburn.

## Names of Free Public Libraries and Names of Librarians—Con.

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
Dracut, . . . . .	Dracut Town Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Truman W. Hill.
Dudley, . . . . .	Dudley Free Public Library, . . . . .	Carrie Elizabeth Easterbrook.
Dunstable, . . . . .	Dunstable Free Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Lizzie A. Swallow.
Duxbury, . . . . .	Duxbury Free Library, . . . . .	Sara B. Higgins.
East Bridgewater, . . . . .	East Bridgewater Public Library, . . . . .	Lucy L. Siddall.
Eastham, . . . . .	Eastham Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Herbert C. Clark.
Easthampton, . . . . .	Public Library Association, . . . . .	Dorcas Chapin Miller.
East Longmeadow, . . . . .	E. Longmeadow Public Library, . . . . .	Mary R. McIntosh.
Easton, . . . . .	Ames Free Library, . . . . .	Mary Lavinia Lamprey.
Edgartown, . . . . .	Edgartown Free Public Library, . . . . .	Eunice C. Ripley.
Egremont, . . . . .	Egremont Free Library, . . . . .	Frances O'Neil.
North Egremont, . . . . .	North Egremont Branch, . . . . .	Bessie Millard.
West Egremont, . . . . .	West Egremont Branch, . . . . .	Mrs. G. W. Smith.
Enfield, . . . . .	Enfield Library Association, . . . . .	Ada L. Harwood.
Erving, . . . . .	Erving Free Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. W. G. Walkup.
Miller's Falls, . . . . .	Miller's Falls Branch, . . . . .	W. A. Butman.
Essex, . . . . .	T. O. H. P. Burnham Public Library, . . . . .	Ethelyn B. Story.
EVERETT, . . . . .	Frederick E. Parlin Memorial Library, . . . . .	Ellen L. Johnson.
East Everett, . . . . .	Shute Memorial Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Leona C. Lydiard.
Fairhaven, . . . . .	The Millicent Library, . . . . .	Drew B. Hall.
FALL RIVER, . . . . .	Fall River Public Library, . . . . .	—
Falmouth, . . . . .	Falmouth Free Public Library, . . . . .	Pamelia Frances Robbins.
West Falmouth, . . . . .	West Falmouth Library, . . . . .	Albert S. Bowerman.
Woods Hole, . . . . .	Woods Hole Library, . . . . .	Joseph Walsh.
FITCHBURG, . . . . .	Fitchburg Public Library, . . . . .	George E. Nutting.
Florida, . . . . .	Florida Free Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Elizabeth J. Whitcomb.
Foxborough, . . . . .	Boydston Public Library, . . . . .	Mary D. Torrey.
Framingham, . . . . .	Framingham Town Library, . . . . .	Emma Leonore Clarke.
Franklin, . . . . .	Franklin Library Association, . . . . .	Mrs. Ella G. Campbell.
Freetown, . . . . .	Guilford H. Hathaway Library, . . . . .	Mary Florence Dean.
East Freetown, . . . . .	East Freetown Circulating Library, . . . . .	Elizabeth W. Lawrence.
Gardner, . . . . .	Levi Heywood Memorial Library, . . . . .	Mary Reynolds Clarke.
Gay Head, . . . . .	Gay Head Public Library, . . . . .	Harry G. Reed.
Georgetown, . . . . .	Georgetown Peabody Library, . . . . .	Sara T. Noyes.
Gill, . . . . .	Gill Free Public Library, . . . . .	O. F. Hale.
Riverside, . . . . .	Riverside Branch, . . . . .	Frank D. Jones.
GLOUCESTER, . . . . .	Sawyer Free Library, . . . . .	Rachel Sawyer Webber.
Gloucester, . . . . .	Free City Library, . . . . .	Anna G. O'Neill.
Magnolia, . . . . .	Magnolia Library, . . . . .	Elizabeth T. Thornton.
Annisquam, . . . . .	Annisquam Village Hall Library, . . . . .	Helen Lane, <i>Chairman</i> .
Goshen, . . . . .	Goshen Free Public Library, . . . . .	Winnie Avey Dresser.
Gosnold, . . . . .	Gosnold Free Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Bertha L. Stetson.
Grafton, . . . . .	Grafton Public Library, . . . . .	Mabel L. Howe.
Granby, . . . . .	Granby Free Public Library, . . . . .	Cora H. Kellogg.
Granville, . . . . .	Granville Free Public Library, . . . . .	Mabel H. Root.
Granville Centre, . . . . .	Granville Centre Branch, . . . . .	Mrs. Lucien Graves.
Great Barrington, . . . . .	Great Barrington Free Library, . . . . .	Emma W. Sheldon.
Greenfield, . . . . .	Greenfield Public Library, . . . . .	May Ashley.
Greenfield, . . . . .	Greenfield Library Association, . . . . .	Almeda Burnett Robbins.
Greenwich, . . . . .	Greenwich Public Library, . . . . .	Helen I. Nevins.
Groton, . . . . .	Groton Public Library, . . . . .	Emma F. Blood.
Groveland, . . . . .	Groveland Public Library, . . . . .	Louise Florence Cammett.
South Groveland, . . . . .	Hale Library, . . . . .	Edward L. Sides.
Hadley, . . . . .	Hadley Free Library, . . . . .	George C. Marsh.
North Hadley, . . . . .	North Hadley Branch, . . . . .	O. W. Prouty.
Halifax, . . . . .	Holmes Public Library, . . . . .	James T. Thomas.
Hamilton, . . . . .	Hamilton Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Grace C. Stone.
Hampden, . . . . .	Hampden Free Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. John Q. Adams.
Hancock, . . . . .	Hancock Public Library, . . . . .	Daniel Shepardson.
North Hancock, . . . . .	North Hancock Branch, . . . . .	Mrs. George W. Yeager.
Hanover, . . . . .	John Curtis Free Library, . . . . .	Allice Loring Bailey.
Hanson, South, . . . . .	Hanson Public Library, South, . . . . .	Mrs. Abby F. Phillips.
Hanson, North, . . . . .	Hanson Public Library, North, . . . . .	Mary J. Drew.
New State, . . . . .	New State Branch, . . . . .	Mrs. Mary F. Bates.
Maquan, . . . . .	Maquan Branch, . . . . .	Lucy L. Bryant.
North Hanson, . . . . .	Hanson Library Association, . . . . .	Mary J. Drew.
Hardwick, . . . . .	Hardwick Free Town Library, . . . . .	Hannah R. Spooner.
Hardwick, . . . . .	Lucius R. Paige Library, . . . . .	Hannah R. Spooner.
Gilbertville, . . . . .	Gilbertville Public Library, . . . . .	Andrew Bacher.
Harvard, . . . . .	Harvard Public Library, . . . . .	Estelle E. Willard.
Harwich, . . . . .	Broadbrooks Free Library, . . . . .	Lulu B. Tobey.
Hatfield, . . . . .	Hatfield Public Library, . . . . .	John H. Sanderson.



*Names of Free Public Libraries and Names of Librarians—Con.*

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
HAVERHILL, . . .	Haverhill Public Library, . . .	John Grant Moulton.
Washington Street, . .	Washington Street Branch, . . .	Martha E. Barrows.
Ayer's Village, . . .	Ayer's Village Branch, . . .	Edwin M. Haseltine.
Rocks Village, . . .	Rocks Village Branch, . . .	A. Pearl Sawyer.
Bradford, . . .	Bradford Branch, . . .	Kate E. Johnson.
Hawley, . . .	Hawley Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Morris N. Brown.
West Hawley, . . .	Hawley Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. I. C. Vincent.
Heath, . . .	Heath Free Public Library, . . .	Henry Kirk Smith.
Hingham, . . .	Hingham Public Library, . . .	Hawkes Fearing.
Nantasket, . . .	Nantasket Library, . . .	James W. Clark.
Hinsdale, . . .	Hinsdale Public Library Association.	James Hosmer.
Holbrook, . . .	Holbrook Public Library, . . .	Zenas Aaron French.
Holden, . . .	Gale Free Library, . . .	Mrs. Addie M. Holden.
Holland, . . .	Holland Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Bertha L. Howlett.
Holliston, . . .	Holliston Public Library, . . .	Josephine E. Rockwood.
HOLYOKE, . . .	Holyoke Public Library, . . .	Frank Grenell Willcox.
Hopedale, . . .	Bancroft Memorial Library, . . .	Harriet B. Sornborger.
Hopkinton, . . .	Hopkinton Public Library, . . .	Sadie B. Stewart.
Hubbardston, . . .	Hubbardston Public Library, . . .	Lucy H. Grimes.
Hudson, . . .	Hudson Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Grace M. Whittemore.
Hull, . . .	Hull Village Library, . . .	Carrie E. Mitchell.
Huntington, . . .	Huntington Free Library, . . .	Mrs. Adeline E. Munson.
Norwich Hill, . . .	Norwich Hill Branch, . . .	Rev. Mr. Hendricks.
Knightville, . . .	Knightville Branch, . . .	Mrs. C. M. Bates.
Hyde Park, . . .	Hyde Park Public Library, . . .	Elizabeth Almsworth.
Readville, . . .	Readville Branch, . . .	Henry M. Dean, Jr.
Ipswich, . . .	Ipswich Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Mary B. Maine.
Kingston, . . .	Frederic C. Adams Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Jennie F. McLauthlen.
Lakeville, . . .	Lakeville Free Public Library, . . .	Mary Luella Nelson.
North Lakeville, . . .	North Branch, . . .	Eloise A. Hafford.
South Lakeville, . . .	South Branch, . . .	Mrs. William F. Harlow.
Lancaster, . . .	Lancaster Town Library, . . .	Virginia M. Keyes.
Lanesborough, . . .	Lanesborough Town Library, . . .	Mrs. Anna Fuller Bennett.
LAWRENCE, . . .	Lawrence Free Public Library, . . .	William A. Walsh.
South Lawrence, . . .	South Lawrence Branch, . . .	-
Lee, . . .	Lee Public Library, . . .	Mary Stallman.
Leicester, . . .	Leicester Public Library, . . .	Mary Whittemore Warren.
Greenville, . . .	Copeland Memorial Library, . . .	Mrs. Melinda G. Wheelock.
Rochdale, . . .	Rochdale Branch, . . .	Mrs. Arthur Woodhead.
Lenox, . . .	Lenox Library, . . .	Anna Louise White.
Leominster, . . .	Leominster Public Library, . . .	Florence Ethel Wheeler.
Leverett, . . .	Leverett Free Public Library, . . .	Elsie R. Ames.
Hillsborough, . . .	Hillsborough Branch, . . .	Mrs. Etta Ball.
Moore's Corner, . . .	Moore's Corner Branch, . . .	Mrs. Frank Bourne.
North Leverett, . . .	North Leverett Free Public Library, . . .	Edith E. Fisk.
Lexington, . . .	Cary Library, . . .	Marian P. Kirkland.
East Lexington, . . .	East Lexington Branch, . . .	Emma O. Nichols.
Leyden, . . .	Leyden Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. M. S. Severance.
Lincoln, . . .	Lincoln Public Library, . . .	Lydia J. Chapin.
Littleton, . . .	Reuben Hoar Library, . . .	Sarah Foster White.
Longmeadow, . . .	Longmeadow Town Library, . . .	Mrs. Katharine C. Gates.
LOWELL, . . .	City Library of Lowell, . . .	Frederick A. Chase.
Ludlow, . . .	Hubbard Memorial Library, . . .	Edith H. Crowninshield.
Lunenburg, . . .	Lunenburg Public Library, . . .	L. Frances Jones.
LYNN, . . .	Lynn Free Public Library, . . .	Harriet Louise Matthews.
Lynnfield, . . .	Lynnfield Free Public Library, . . .	Elizabeth W. Green.
MALDEN, . . .	Malden Public Library, . . .	Lizzie A. Williams.
Manchester, . . .	Manchester Public Library, . . .	Delucena Lothrop Bingham.
Mansfield, . . .	Mansfield Public Library, . . .	Ida Frances Hodges.
Marblehead, . . .	Abbot Public Library, . . .	Mary Gerry Brown.
Marion, . . .	Marion Public Library, . . .	Alice Austin Ryder.
MARLBOROUGH, . . .	Marlborough Public Library, . . .	Sarah E. Cotting.
Robin Hill, . . .	Robin Hill Improvement Society, . . .	Nellie Weagle.
Marshfield, . . .	Ventress Free Public Library, . . .	Joshua T. Baker.
Marshfield Hills, . . .	Cliff Rogers Free Library, . . .	Mrs. Lena A. Holbrook.
Mashpee, . . .	Mashpee Free Public Library, . . .	Clara N. Collins.
South Mashpee, . . .	South Mashpee Branch, . . .	Mrs. Adeline Mills.
Mattapoisett, . . .	Mattapoisett Free Public Library, . . .	Clara F. Sherman.
Maynard, . . .	Maynard Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Sarah F. Nyman.
Medfield, . . .	Medfield Public Library, . . .	Lucretia M. Johnson.
MEDFORD, . . .	Medford Public Library, . . .	Mary E. Sargent.
Medway, West, . . .	Medway Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Anna Fales.
Medway Village, . . .	Dean Library, . . .	Bertha E. Newell.

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CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
MELROSE, . . .	Melrose Public Library, . . .	Carrie M. Worthen.
Mendon, . . .	Taft Public Library, . . .	Annie W. Gaskill.
Merrimac, . . .	Merrimac Public Library, . . .	Louise C. Brackett.
Methuen, . . .	Nevins Memorial Library, . . .	Harriet L. Crosby.
Middleborough, . . .	Middleborough Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Adelaide K. Thatcher.
Middlefield, . . .	Middlefield Public Library, . . .	Metcalf J. Smith.
Bancroft, . . .	Bancroft Branch, . . .	Sarah L. Savery.
Middleton, . . .	Flint Public Library, . . .	Samuel A. Fletcher.
Milford, . . .	Milford Town Library, . . .	Nathaniel F. Blake.
Millbury, . . .	Millbury Town Library, . . .	Carolyn C. Waters.
Millis, . . .	Millis Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Annie Macdonough.
Milton, . . .	Milton Public Library, . . .	Gertrude Emmons Forrest.
East Milton, . . .	East Milton Reading Room, . . .	Josephine M. Babcock.
Mattapan, . . .	Mattapan Reading Room, . . .	Elien F. Vose.
Russell, . . .	Russell Reading Room, . . .	Jennie W. Kennedy.
Milton Village, . . .	Milton Village Station, . . .	Mary M. Krim.
Monroe, . . .	Monroe Free Public Library, . . .	Addie L. Gordon.
Monroe Bridge, . . .	Monroe Bridge Branch, . . .	Mrs. Lella M. Blanchard.
Monson, . . .	Monson Free Library, . . .	Nellie F. Squier.
Montague, . . .	Montague Public Library, . . .	Kate A. Armstrong.
Turner's Falls, . . .	Turner's Falls Branch, . . .	Norman P. Farwell.
Monterey, . . .	Monterey Free Library, . . .	Della A. Tryon.
Montgomery, . . .	Montgomery Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. D. L. Allyn.
Mount Washington, . . .	Mount Washington Public Library, . . .	Guy William Patterson.
Nahant, . . .	Nahant Public Library, . . .	May W. Perkins.
Nantucket, . . .	Nantucket Athenæum, . . .	Sarah F. Barnard.
Natick, . . .	Morse Institute Library, . . .	Mira R. Partridge.
South Natick, . . .	Bacon Free Library, . . .	Mrs. Adelaide Williams.
Needham, . . .	Needham Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Riella Juliana Dunn.
Highlandville, . . .	Highlandville Branch, . . .	Bertha E. Coburn.
New Ashford, . . .	New Ashford Public Library, . . .	George H. Halfacre.
NEW BEDFORD, . . .	Free Public Library of the City of New Bedford.	George H. Tripp.
North District, . . .	North Branch, . . .	William Brown.
South District, . . .	South Branch, . . .	Robert Allen.
New Braintree, . . .	New Braintree Free Public Library, . . .	Carrie Frances Bush.
NEWBURYPORT, . . .	Newburyport Public Library, . . .	John D. Parsons.
South Newburyport, . . .	South End Reading Room, . . .	Emma M. Lander, Sec'y.
New Marlborough, . . .	New Marlborough Public Library, . . .	K. C. Doyle.
Mill River, . . .	Mill River Branch, . . .	Mrs. W. R. Fields.
Clayton, . . .	Clayton Branch, . . .	Mrs. H. R. Bunnell.
Hartsville, . . .	Hartsville Branch, . . .	Julia Lawrence.
Southfield, . . .	Southfield Branch, . . .	Kate L. Baldwin.
Southfield, . . .	Seymour Library Association, . . .	Kate L. Baldwin.
New Salem, . . .	New Salem Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Geneva Seig Ballard.
NEWTON, . . .	Newton Free Library, . . .	Elizabeth P. Thurston.
Auburndale, . . .	Auburndale Branch, . . .	Annie E. Bunker.
Newton Centre, . . .	Newton Centre Branch, . . .	Julia C. Henshaw.
Newton Upper Falls, . . .	Newton Upper Falls Branch, . . .	Mary E. Barnard.
West Newton, . . .	West Newton Branch, . . .	Helen Wheeler.
Norfolk, . . .	Norfolk Public Library, . . .	Walter L. Sykes.
NORTH ADAMS, . . .	North Adams Public Library, . . .	Mabel Temple.
Blackinton, . . .	Oscar A. Archer Branch, . . .	Gladys Hughes.
Braytonville, . . .	Braytonville Branch, . . .	Helen Brown.
East Mountain, . . .	East Mountain School, . . .	Mary Hart.
Houghtonville, . . .	Houghtonville Branch, . . .	Sadie Henderson.
Beaver, . . .	Beaver Branch, . . .	Charles Prindle.
North Andover, . . .	North Andover Public Library, . . .	Hannah J. Quealy.
North Attleborough, . . .	Richards Memorial Library, . . .	Leda Jane Thompson.
North Brookfield, . . .	North Brookfield Free Public Li- brary and Reading Room.	Nellie L. Smith.
North Reading, . . .	Flint Library, . . .	Addie W. Gowing.
NORTHAMPTON, . . .	Northampton Public Library, . . .	Sarah D. Kellogg.
Florence, . . .	Florence Branch, . . .	Mary A. Fuller.
NORTHAMPTON, . . .	Forbes Library, . . .	William Parker Cutter.
Northborough, . . .	Northborough Free Library, . . .	M. Evelyn Potter.
Northbridge, . . .	Whitinsville Social Library, . . .	Mrs. William H. Fuller.
Northfield, . . .	Dickinson Memorial Library, . . .	Mrs. F. J. Stockbridge.
Norton, . . .	Norton Public Library, . . .	Emily A. Titus.
Norwell, . . .	James Library, . . .	Joseph F. Merritt.
Norwood, . . .	Morrill Memorial Library, . . .	Jane Atherton Hewett.
Oakham, . . .	Oakham Free Public Library, . . .	Frank E. Davis.
Orange, . . .	Orange Free Public Library, . . .	Grace H. Dawley.
North Orange, . . .	North Orange Branch, . . .	Mrs. Sara E. Rich.



## Names of Free Public Libraries and Names of Librarians — Con.

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
Orleans, . . . . .	Snow Library, . . . . .	Hiram Myers.
Otis, . . . . .	Otis Free Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Olive J. Davison.
Oxford, . . . . .	Oxford Free Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Clara A. Fuller.
North Oxford, . . . . .	North Oxford Branch, . . . . .	Nellie M. Tolman.
Palmer, . . . . .	Young Men's Library Association, . . . . .	Robert J. Fuller.
Paxton, . . . . .	Paxton Free Public Library, . . . . .	Rena Robinson.
Peabody, . . . . .	Peabody Institute Library, . . . . .	Lyman P. Osborn.
Peabody, . . . . .	Eben Dale Sutton Reference Library, . . . . .	Augusta F. Daniels.
Pelham, . . . . .	Pelham Free Public Library, . . . . .	Mary A. Keith.
West Pelham, . . . . .	West Pelham Branch, . . . . .	Mrs. Lyman Allen.
Pembroke, . . . . .	Pembroke Free Library, . . . . .	Ellen F. Cox.
Bryantville, . . . . .	Cobb Memorial Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Julia Morton.
Pepperell, . . . . .	Lawrence Library, . . . . .	Mrs. M. Fannie Shattuck.
Peru, . . . . .	Free Public Library of Peru, . . . . .	Mattie Hathaway.
Petersham, . . . . .	Petersham Memorial Library, . . . . .	Fannie Gordon Prince.
Phillipston, . . . . .	Phillips Free Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Flora V. Danforth.
PITTSFIELD, . . . . .	Berkshire Athenæum, . . . . .	Harlan H. Ballard.
Pontoosuc, . . . . .	Pontoosuc Branch, . . . . .	P. H. Keegan.
Plainfield, . . . . .	Plainfield Public Library, . . . . .	Anna M. King.
Plymouth, . . . . .	Plymouth Public Library, . . . . .	Nellie Thomas.
North Plymouth, . . . . .	Loring Reading Room, . . . . .	Alice Crane.
Plympton, . . . . .	Plympton Free Public Library, . . . . .	John Sherman.
Prescott, . . . . .	Prescott Free Public Library, . . . . .	Flora A. Griswold.
East District, . . . . .	East Branch, . . . . .	Mrs. Flora Brown.
Hill District, . . . . .	Hill Branch, . . . . .	Helen Dickinson.
Princeton, . . . . .	Princeton Public Library, . . . . .	Susan A. Davis.
Provincetown, . . . . .	Provincetown Public Library, . . . . .	Abbie Cook Putnam.
QUINCY, . . . . .	Thomas Crane Public Library, . . . . .	Amelia L. Bumpus.
Randolph, . . . . .	Turner Free Library, . . . . .	Charles Chittenden Farnham.
Raynham, . . . . .	Raynham Public Library, . . . . .	Lucy W. Thompson.
North Raynham, . . . . .	North Raynham Library Association, . . . . .	Mrs. Mary H. Barton.
Reading, . . . . .	Reading Public Library, . . . . .	Bertha L. Brown.
Rehoboth, . . . . .	Blanding Library, . . . . .	Nettie M. Earle.
Revere, . . . . .	Revere Public Library, . . . . .	Harriet T. Fenno.
Richmond, . . . . .	Richmond Free Public Library, . . . . .	Abbie E. Barnes.
Rochester, . . . . .	Rochester Public Library, . . . . .	Anne T. Ryder.
North Rochester, . . . . .	North Rochester Branch, . . . . .	Rev. J. P. Trowbridge.
Rockland, . . . . .	Rockland Public Library, . . . . .	Angela W. Collins.
Rockport, . . . . .	Rockport Public Library, . . . . .	Elsie M. Dann.
Pigeon Cove, . . . . .	Pigeon Cove Branch, . . . . .	Martha D. Fretch.
Rowe, . . . . .	Rowe Town Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Alice E. Newell.
Rowley, . . . . .	Rowley Free Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Catharine N. Mighill.
Royalston, . . . . .	Royalston Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Emeline E. Mackenzie.
Russell, . . . . .	Russell Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. M. B. Shelley.
Woronoco, . . . . .	Woronoco Branch, . . . . .	Mrs. F. Bower.
Russell Mountain, . . . . .	Russell Mountain Branch, . . . . .	Mrs. C. J. Thompson.
Rutland, . . . . .	Rutland Free Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Martha L. Prouty.
SALEM, . . . . .	Salem Public Library, . . . . .	Gardner M. Jones.
Salisbury, . . . . .	Salisbury Free Library, . . . . .	Alice R. Currier.
Sandisfield, . . . . .	Sandisfield Public Library, . . . . .	Carrie M. Barker.
Sandwich, . . . . .	Sandwich Free Public Library, . . . . .	Annie A. Rogers.
Saugus, . . . . .	Saugus Free Public Library, . . . . .	Emma E. Newhall.
Savoy, . . . . .	Savoy Free Public Library, . . . . .	William F. Briggs.
Scituate, . . . . .	Satuit Library, . . . . .	Blanche C. Gardner.
North Scituate, . . . . .	Peirce Memorial Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Mary L. Lee.
Seekonk, . . . . .	Seekonk Public Library, . . . . .	Edna T. Lane.
Sharon, . . . . .	Sharon Public Library, . . . . .	Emma A. Baker.
Sheffield, . . . . .	Sheffield Free Town Library, . . . . .	Gertrude S. Gleason.
Shelburne, . . . . .	Shelburne Free Public Library, . . . . .	Mersey A. Anderson.
Shelburne Falls, . . . . .	Arms Public Library, . . . . .	Daniel W. Wilcox.
Sherborn, . . . . .	Sherborn Town Library, . . . . .	M. Nellie Clark.
Shirley, . . . . .	Shirley Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Alice Livermore Wright.
Shrewsbury, . . . . .	Shrewsbury Free Public Library, . . . . .	Mabel E. Knowlton.
Shutesbury, . . . . .	Shutesbury Free Public Library, . . . . .	Mary L. Clark.
Somerset, . . . . .	Somerset Free Public Library, . . . . .	Myra Babbitt.
SOMERVILLE, . . . . .	Somerville Public Library, . . . . .	Sam Walter Foss.
South Hadley, . . . . .	South Hadley Public Library, . . . . .	Rebecca Frances Smith.
South Hadley Falls, . . . . .	South Hadley Public Library, . . . . .	Grover C. Kirley.
Southampton, . . . . .	Southampton Public Library, . . . . .	Eva M. Gridley.
Southborough, . . . . .	Fay Library, . . . . .	Francena E. Buck.
Southbridge, . . . . .	Southbridge Public Library, . . . . .	Ella E. Miersch.
Southwick, . . . . .	Southwick Free Public Library, . . . . .	Wilder Bennett Harding.



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CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
Spencer, . . .	Richard Sugden Library, . . .	Nellie A. Belcher.
SPRINGFIELD, . . .	City Library Association of Spring- field.	Hiller C. Wellman.
Indian Orchard, . . .	Indian Orchard Branch, . . .	Nellie E. Dodge.
Ferry Street, . . .	Ferry Street Branch, . . .	Bessie Amsden.
Forest Park, . . .	Forest Park Branch, . . .	Harriet B. Winsor.
— . . .	Faith Branch, . . .	Harriet B. Winsor.
Sterling, . . .	Sterling Free Public Library, . . .	Mary D. Peck.
Stockbridge, . . .	Stockbridge Library Association, . . .	Caroline P. Wells.
Stoneham, . . .	Stoneham Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. H. Marilla Boyce.
Stoughton, . . .	Stoughton Public Library, . . .	M. Alice Burnham.
Stow, . . .	Randall Memorial Library, . . .	Susan M. Lawrence.
Sturbridge, . . .	Joshua Hyde Library, . . .	Mrs. Horace M. Locke.
Sudbury, . . .	Goodnow Library, . . .	Mary L. Cutter.
Sunderland, . . .	Sunderland Public Library, . . .	Abbie T. Montague.
Sutton, . . .	Sutton Free Library, . . .	Sarah M. Mills.
Manchaug, . . .	Manchaug Branch, . . .	Francis Truscott.
South Sutton, . . .	South Sutton Branch, . . .	Mrs. Mary Littlefield.
West Sutton, . . .	West Sutton Branch, . . .	Jason Waters.
Wilkinsonville, . . .	Wilkinsonville Branch, . . .	Arthur Merrill.
Swampscott, . . .	Swampscott Free Public Library, . . .	Sarah Louise Honors.
Swansea, . . .	Swansea Free Public Library, . . .	Julia R. Wellington.
TAUNTON, . . .	Taunton Public Library, . . .	Joshua Eddy Crane.
Templeton, . . .	Boynton Public Library, . . .	Grace E. Blodgett.
Tewksbury, . . .	Tewksbury Public Library, . . .	Harriette G. Lee.
Tisbury, . . .	Vineyard Haven Library, . . .	Mabel T. Tilton.
Tolland, . . .	Tolland Free Public Library, . . .	Wilbert Munn.
Topsfield, . . .	Topsfield Town Library, . . .	Albert M. Dodge.
Townsend, . . .	Townsend Public Library, . . .	Annie S. Begg.
Truro, . . .	Truro Town Library, . . .	Mrs. Laurena A. Ryder.
North Truro, . . .	North Truro Branch, . . .	Mrs. A. C. Small.
South Truro, . . .	South Truro Branch, . . .	A. B. Cobb.
Tyngsborough, . . .	Littlefield Library, . . .	Ellen Lydia Perham.
Tyringham, . . .	Tyringham Free Public Library, . . .	Hazel Tinker.
Upton, . . .	Upton Town Library, . . .	Mrs. Laura C. Sadler.
Uxbridge, . . .	Uxbridge Free Public Library, . . .	Beatrice Putnam.
Wakefield, . . .	Beebe Town Library, . . .	Mrs. Harriet A. Shepard.
Wales, . . .	Wales Public Library, . . .	L. H. Thompson.
Walpole, . . .	Walpole Public Library, . . .	Ida J. Phelps.
WALTHAM, . . .	Waltham Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Mary E. Bill.
Ware, . . .	Young Men's Library Association, . . .	Harriet B. Hayden.
Wareham, . . .	Wareham Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Harriet Parker Harlow.
Warren, . . .	Warren Public Library, . . .	Joseph G. Hastings.
Warwick, . . .	Warwick Free Library, . . .	Clara A. Jones.
Watertown, . . .	Free Public Library, . . .	Solon F. Whitney.
Wayland, . . .	Wayland Free Public Library, . . .	Margaret E. Wheeler.
Webster, . . .	Webster Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Phoebe P. Kingsbury.
Wellesley, . . .	Wellesley Free Library, . . .	Florence M. Osborne.
Wellfleet, . . .	Wellfleet Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Kate E. Brown.
Wendell, . . .	Wendell Free Library, . . .	Mrs. Mary E. White.
Farley, . . .	Farley Branch, . . .	Mildred C. Russell.
Wenham, . . .	Wenham Public Library, . . .	Benjamin H. Conant.
Westborough, . . .	Westborough Public Library, . . .	Martha J. Eastman.
West Boylston, . . .	West Boylston Public Library, . . .	Ella L. Sawyer.
West Bridgewater, . . .	West Bridgewater Public Library, . . .	Mary L. Perkins.
West Brookfield, . . .	Merriam Public Library, . . .	Florence A. Johnson.
Westfield, . . .	Westfield Athenæum, . . .	Herbert W. Denio.
Mundale, . . .	Mundale Branch, . . .	Rev. Wilbur T. Hale.
Westford, . . .	J. V. Fletcher Library, . . .	Mary P. Bunce.
Westhampton, . . .	Westhampton Reunion Town Li- brary.	George E. Knight.
Westminster, . . .	Forbush Memorial Library, . . .	Sadie F. Greene.
West Newbury, . . .	West Newbury Public Library, . . .	Caroline Carr.
First Parish, . . .	First Parish Branch, . . .	Mrs. Isabel A. Kennett.
Westport, . . .	Westport Free Public Library, . . .	Annie R. Howland.
Head of Westport, . . .	Westport Public Library, . . .	E. W. Burt, M.D.
South Westport, . . .	South Westport Branch, . . .	Mrs. William Gifford.
Brownell's Corner, . . .	Brownell's Corner Branch, . . .	Arthur Reynolds.
Westport Point, . . .	Westport Point Library, . . .	Mary C. Corey.
West Springfield, . . .	West Springfield Public Library, . . .	Daniel G. White.
West Stockbridge, . . .	West Stockbridge Free Library, . . .	Frances J. Edwards.
West Tisbury, . . .	West Tisbury Free Public Library, . . .	Cyrus Manter.
Weston, . . .	Weston Public Library, . . .	Maude M. Pennook.
Westwood, . . .	Westwood Free Public Library, . . .	Annie L. Richardson.

*Names of Free Public Libraries and Names of Librarians — Con.*

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
Weymouth, . . .	Tufts Library, . . . . .	Caroline Augusta Blanchard.
South Weymouth, . . .	Fogg Memorial Library, . . . . .	Ruth N. Tower.
Whately, . . . . .	Whately Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Ella L. Elder.
Whitman, . . . . .	Whitman Public Library, . . . . .	Ellena S. Spilsted.
Wilbraham, . . . . .	Free Public Library, . . . . .	Elizabeth M. Boss.
Williamsburg, . . . . .	Meekins Memorial Library, . . . . .	Ada M. Chandler.
Haydenville, . . . . .	Haydenville Free Library, . . . . .	Charles A. Phillips.
Williamstown, . . . . .	Williamstown Public Library, . . . . .	Lucy F. Curtis.
South Williamstown, . . . . .	South Williamstown Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Lucy Torrey Sanford.
Wilmington, . . . . .	Wilmington Public Library, . . . . .	Anna Tolman Sheldon.
Winchendon, . . . . .	Winchendon Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Sylvia M. Manzer.
Winchester, . . . . .	Winchester Public Library, . . . . .	Cora A. Quimby.
Windsor, . . . . .	Windsor Free Public Library, . . . . .	Agatha Bicknell.
Winthrop, . . . . .	Winthrop Public Library, . . . . .	Bessie F. Cordis.
Woburn, . . . . .	Woburn Public Library, . . . . .	William R. Cutter.
WORCESTER, . . . . .	Free Public Library of the City of Worcester.	Samuel Swett Green.
Belmont, . . . . .	Belmont Branch, . . . . .	John T. Ekman.
Grafton Square, . . . . .	Grafton Square Branch, . . . . .	James A. Manley.
Greendale, . . . . .	Greendale Branch, . . . . .	M. L. Blanche Hamel.
Lake View, . . . . .	Lake View Branch, . . . . .	Rev. William A. Fobes.
New Worcester, . . . . .	New Worcester Branch, . . . . .	William Alonzo Barrows.
Quinsigamond, . . . . .	Quinsigamond Branch, . . . . .	Verner G. Anderson.
South Worcester, . . . . .	South Worcester Branch, . . . . .	Peter B. Moriarty.
Tatnuck, . . . . .	Tatnuck Branch, . . . . .	Eva J. Prentiss.
Worthington, . . . . .	Worthington Free Library, . . . . .	Katharine McD. Rice.
Wrentham, . . . . .	Wrentham Public Library, . . . . .	Mary A. Smith.
Yarmouth, . . . . .	Yarmouth Library Association, . . . . .	Mrs. Lydia C. Matthews.
South Yarmouth, . . . . .	Free Social Library, . . . . .	Tamsen F. Baker.
West Yarmouth, . . . . .	West Yarmouth Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Maria Taylor.

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APPENDIX II.

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A ROLL OF HONOR.

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LIST OF GIVERS OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BUILDINGS IN MASSACHUSETTS.

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# GIVERS OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDINGS IN MASSACHUSETTS.

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ACTON, . . . .	Gift of Hon. William A. Wilde of Malden.
AMESBURY, . . . .	Bequest of Mary A. Barnard and others.
AMHERST, NORTH, . . . .	Mainly the gift of citizens.
ANDOVER, . . . .	Gift of citizens.
ARLINGTON, . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Maria C. Robbins of Brooklyn, N. Y., as a memorial of her husband.
ASHBURNHAM, . . . .	Gift of George F. Stevens.
ASHEY, . . . .	Gift of Edwin Chapman of Boston.
ASHLAND, . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
ATHOL, . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
AYER, . . . .	Gift of Frederick F. Ayer of New York.
BAENSTABLE, . . . .	Gift of Hon. William Sturgis of Boston.
BARRE, . . . .	Gift of Henry Woods of Boston.
BECKET, . . . .	Gift of Miss Blanche Perkins, as a memorial of her parents.
BELCHERTOWN, . . . .	Bequest of John Francis Clapp.
BELMONT, . . . .	Gift of Henry O. Underwood.
BERNARDSTON, . . . .	Gift of Hon. Henry W. Cushman.
BILLERICA, . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Joshua Bennett.
BLANDFORD, . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Josephine E. S. Porter of Hartford, as a memorial of her son, Edgar Sheffield Porter.
BOLTON, . . . .	Gift of Annie Eliza Whitney of Lancaster.
BOURNE, . . . .	Gift of Miss Emily H. Bourne, as a memorial of her father, the Hon. Jonathan Bourne.
BOYLSTON, . . . .	Gift of Miss Salome E. White of Brooklyn, N. Y., as a memorial of her mother, Mrs. Harriet Sawyer White.
BRAINTREE, . . . .	Gift of Gen. Sylvanus Thayer.
BRIMFIELD, . . . .	Gift of James Danielson Lincoln, as a memorial of his mother and his wife.
BROOKFIELD, . . . .	Gift of William A. Banister of New York.
CAMBRIDGE, . . . .	Gift of Frederick H. Rindge of Los Angeles.
CANTON, . . . .	Gift of Augustus Hemenway.
CARLISLE, . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Joanna Gleason of Sudbury.
CHARLEMONT, . . . .	Gift of E. R. Goodnow and other citizens.
CHATHAM, . . . .	Gift of Hon. Marcellus Eldredge.
CHELMSFORD, . . . .	Gift of Amos F. Adams of Boston.
CHELSEA, . . . .	Gift of Hon. Eustace C. Fitz.
CLINTON, . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
COHASSET, . . . .	Memorial of Paul Pratt.
CONCORD, . . . .	Gift of William Munroe.

CONWAY, . . . .	Gift of Hon. Marshall Field of Chicago, as a memorial of his parents.
CUMMINGTON, . . . .	Gift of William Cullen Bryant.
DALTON, . . . .	Gift of the Crane family.
DANVERS, . . . .	Gift of George Peabody.
DARTMOUTH, SOUTH, . . . .	Gift of John H. Southworth of Springfield.
DEDHAM, . . . .	Bequests and gifts of citizens.
DEERFIELD, . . . .	Bequest of Mrs. Esther Dickinson.
DENNIS, . . . .	Bequest of Jacob Sears.
DOUGLAS, . . . .	Gift of James M. Fairfield of Boston, as a memorial of his father and mother, Simon and Phoebe Churchill Fairfield.
DUXBURY, . . . .	Gift of Mrs. George W. Wright, as a memorial of her son, George Buckham Wright.
EAST BRIDGEWATER, . . . .	Gift of Cyrus Washburn of Wellesley.
EASTHAM, . . . .	Gift of Eastham Village Improvement Society.
EASTHAMPTON, . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Emily G. Williston.
EASTON, . . . .	Gift of Hon. Oliver Ames and Mrs. Sarah L. Ames.
EDGARTOWN, . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
ESSEX, . . . .	Bequest of T. O. H. P. Burnham of Boston.
EVERETT, . . . .	Gift of Albert M. Parlin, as a memorial of his son.
EAST EVERETT, . . . .	Bequest of William Shute.
FAIRHAVEN, . . . .	Gift of Henry H. and Abbie P. Rogers, as a memorial of their daughter, Millicent.
FITCHBURG, . . . .	Gift of Hon. Rodney Wallace.
FRANKLIN, . . . .	Gift of daughters of Hon. Joseph G. Ray, as a memorial of their father.
FREETOWN, . . . .	Gift of Mrs. E. Florence Hathaway Crowell, as a memorial of her father, Hon. Guilford B. Hathaway.
GARDNER, . . . .	Gift of children of Levi Heywood.
GEORGETOWN, . . . .	Gift of George Peabody.
GLOUCESTER, . . . .	Gift of Samuel E. Sawyer.
GRANVILLE, . . . .	Gift of Hon. M. B. Whitney and others.
GROTON, . . . .	Partly the gift of Mrs. Charlotte A. L. Sibley.
HADLEY, . . . .	Gift of John Dwight and others.
HARVARD, . . . .	Mainly the gift of natives of the town.
HATFIELD, . . . .	Bequest of Samuel H. Dickinson.
HAVERHILL, . . . .	Gift of Hon. E. J. M. Hale and other citizens.
HINGHAM, . . . .	Gift of Hon. Albert Fearing.
HINSDALE, . . . .	Gift of citizens.
HOLDEN, . . . .	Gift of Hon. Samuel C. Gale of Minneapolis.
HOLLISTON, . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
HOLYOKE, . . . .	Gift of citizens.
HOPEDALE, . . . .	Gift of Joseph B. Bancroft, as a memorial of his wife, Mrs. Sylvia Thwing Bancroft.
HOPKINTON, . . . .	Gift of natives and residents of the town.
HUBBARDSTON, . . . .	Gift of Jonas G. Clark of Worcester.
HUDSON, . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
IPSWICH, . . . .	Gift of Capt. Augustine Heard.
KINGSTON, . . . .	Bequest of Frederic C. Adams.
LANCASTER, . . . .	Mainly the gift of Nathaniel Thayer and his sons.
LAWRENCE, . . . .	Gift of Mrs. N. G. White and Miss E. A. White.



LEICESTER, . . . .	Gift of Lory S. Watson, Dr. Pliny Earle, David E. Merriam and others.
LENOX, . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Adeline E. Schermerhorn.
LEXINGTON, . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Maria Cary.
LINCOLN, . . . .	Gift of George Grosvenor Tarbell.
LITTLETON, . . . .	Gift of children of William Stevens Houghton, as a memorial of their father.
LUDLOW, . . . .	Gift of heirs of Charles T. Hubbard.
LYNN, . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Elizabeth M. Shute, as a memorial of her husband.
MALDEN, . . . .	Gift of Hon. Elisha S. Converse and his wife, as a memorial of their son.
MANCHESTER, . . . .	Gift of Thomas Jefferson Coolidge.
MANSFIELD, . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Elizabeth F. Noble and others.
MARBLEHEAD, . . . .	Bequest of Benjamin Abbot of Boston.
MARION, . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Elizabeth Taber of New Bedford.
MARLBOROUGH, . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
MARSHFIELD, . . . .	Bequest of Seth J. Ventress.
MATTAPOISETT, . . . .	Gift of George Purrington, Jr.
MEDFORD, . . . .	Gift of Thatcher Magoun.
MELROSE, . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
METHUEN, . . . .	Gift of heirs of David Nevins.
MIDDLEBOROUGH, . . . .	Bequest of Thomas S. Peirce.
MIDDLETON, . . . .	Bequest of Hon. Charles L. Flint.
MONSON, . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Carrie R. Dale, as a memorial of her father, Horatio Lyon.
NATICK, . . . .	Bequest of Miss Mary Ann Morse.
<i>South Natick,</i> . . . .	Bequest of Oliver Bacon.
NEEDHAM, . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
NEWBURYPORT, . . . .	Gift of citizens.
<i>South Newburyport,</i> . . . .	Gift of William H. Swasey and other citizens.
NEWTON, . . . .	Gift of J. Wiley Edmunds and other citizens.
NORTH ADAMS, . . . .	Gift of Hon. Albert C. Houghton, as a memorial of his brother, Andrew Jackson Houghton.
NORTHAMPTON, . . . .	Bequest of John Clarke, supplemented by other gifts and by the city.
NORTHAMPTON, . . . .	Bequest of Hon. Charles Edward Forbes.
<i>Florence,</i> . . . .	Gift of Alfred T. Lilly.
NORTH ANDOVER, . . . .	Gift of Hon. Moses T. Stevens.
NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH, . . . .	Gift of children of Edmund I. and Lucy N. Richards, as a memorial of their parents.
NORTHBOROUGH, . . . .	Gift of Cyrus Gale.
NORTH BROOKFIELD, . . . .	Mainly the gift of Erasmus Haston.
NORTHFIELD, . . . .	Gift of Elijah M. Dickinson of Fitchburg.
NORTH READING, . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Charles F. Flint.
NORTON, . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Eliza B. Wheaton.
NORWOOD, . . . .	Gift of George H. Morrill and wife, as a memorial of their daughter, Miss Sarah Bond Morrill.
OAKHAM, . . . .	Bequest of Charles Fobes of Petersham.
ORLEANS, . . . .	Built partly by subscriptions.
OXFORD, . . . .	Gift of Charles Larned of Boston.
PEABODY, . . . .	Gift of George Peabody.

PEMBROKE ( <i>Bryantville</i> ), . . .	Gift of Mrs. Rozilla Cobb.
PEPPERELL, . . . . .	Bequest of Charles F. Lawrence of New York.
PETERSHAM, . . . . .	Built mainly by subscriptions.
PITTSFIELD, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. Thomas Allen.
PLYMOUTH, . . . . .	Gift of daughters of William G. Russell.
PRINCETON, . . . . .	Gift of Edward A. Goodnow, as a family memorial.
PROVINCETOWN, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. Nathan Freeman.
QUINCY, . . . . .	Gift of heirs of Thomas Crane.
RANDOLPH, . . . . .	Gift of heirs of Col. Royal Turner.
REHOBOTH, . . . . .	Gifts of Darius Goff of Pawtucket, R. I.
REVERE, . . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
ROCHESTER, . . . . .	Partly the gift of Mrs. Elizabeth Leonard of New Bedford.
ROCKLAND, . . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
ROCKPORT, . . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
SALEM, . . . . .	Gift of heirs of Capt. John Bertram.
SCITUATE, NORTH, . . . . .	Gift of Silas Peirce of Boston, as a memorial of his wife.
SHIRLEY, . . . . .	Built mainly by bequest of Mrs. Betsey D. Hazen.
SHREWSBURY, . . . . .	Bequest of Jubal Howe.
SOMERSET, . . . . .	Bequest of Mrs. Sarah Hood.
SOUTHAMPTON, . . . . .	Gift of Winslow H. Edwards, as a memorial of his father.
SOUTHBRIDGE, . . . . .	Gift of Holmes Ammidown of New York.
SOUTH HADLEY, . . . . .	Gift of William H. Gaylord.
SPENCER, . . . . .	Gift of Richard Sugden.
SPRINGFIELD, . . . . .	Gift of the City Library Association (1870); Gift of Andrew Carnegie (1905).
STERLING, . . . . .	Gift of Edward Conant of Worcester, as a memorial of his daughter, Elizabeth Anne.
STOCKBRIDGE, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. John Z. Goodrich.
STONEHAM, . . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
STOUGHTON, . . . . .	Gift of Lucius Clapp of Randolph.
STOW, . . . . .	Gift of Miss Belinda Lull Randall, for estate of John Wilt Randall.
STURBRIDGE, . . . . .	Bequest of George B. Hyde of Boston, as a memorial of his father, Joshua Hyde.
SUDBURY, . . . . .	Bequest of John Goodnow of Boston.
SUNDERLAND, . . . . .	Gift of John Long Graves.
SWANSEA, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. F. S. Stevens.
TAUNTON, . . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
TYNGSBOROUGH, . . . . .	Bequest of Mrs. Lucy Littlefield, as a memorial of her daughter, supplemented by an appropriation by the town.
UXBRIDGE, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. Edward C. Thayer of Keene, N. H.
WALPOLE, . . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
WARE, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. William Hyde and others.
WARREN, . . . . .	Gift of Nathan Richardson and others.
WATERTOWN, . . . . .	Built by Hollis H. Hunnewell and others.
WAYLAND, . . . . .	Bequest of Warren Gould Roby.
WELLESLEY, . . . . .	Gift of Hollis H. Hunnewell.
WEST BROOKFIELD, . . . . .	Gift of Charles Merriam of Springfield.
WESTFORD, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. John Varnum Fletcher.
WESTMINSTER, . . . . .	Bequest of Charles A. Forbush.
WESTWOOD, . . . . .	Gift of Howard Colburn.

WEYMOUTH, . . . .	Gift of Quincy Tufts and his sister, Miss Susan Tufts.
<i>South Weymouth,</i> . .	Bequest of John S. Fogg.
WILLIAMSBURG, . . . .	Bequest of Stephen Meekins.
<i>Haydenville,</i> . . . .	Gift of Miss Anna Hayden.
WINTHROP, . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Eliza W. Frost, as a memorial of her husband, supplemented by an appropriation by the town.
WOBURN, . . . .	Bequest of Charles Bowers Winn, as a memorial of his father.
WRENTHAM, . . . .	Gift of heirs of Hon. Josiah J. Fiske.
YARMOUTH, . . . .	Gift of Nathan Matthews of Boston.





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APPENDIX III.

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FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY LAWS  
OF  
MASSACHUSETTS.

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# FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

REVISED LAWS, 1902, CHAPTER 38.

## GENERAL PROVISION.

SECTION 1. Library corporations and associations which have been legally established shall continue to have all the powers and privileges and be subject to all the duties and restrictions attaching thereto.

## LAW LIBRARIES.

SECTION 2. Attorneys at law who have been admitted to practise in the courts of the commonwealth and who are resident in a county for which there is no law library association may organize as a corporation, under the provisions of chapter one hundred and twenty-five, by the name of the Law Library Association for such county, and may adopt by-laws which shall be subject to the approval of the superior court.

SECTION 3. The inhabitants of the county shall have access to the library and may use the books therein, subject to the provisions of the by-laws.

SECTION 4. County treasurers shall annually pay to the law library associations in their respective counties all sums which are paid into the county treasuries during the year by the clerks of the courts, to an amount not exceeding two thousand dollars in any one year. They may also pay to said associations such further sums as the county commissioners may consider are necessary and proper. All sums which are so paid shall be applied to maintain and enlarge such libraries for the use of the courts and citizens. The treasurer of the law library association, before receiving any money from the county treasurer, shall give bond, with sureties to the satisfaction of the commissioners, for the faithful application of such money, and that he will make a return annually to them, under oath, of the manner in which it has been expended.

SECTION 5. Each law library association shall be entitled to receive from the sergeant-at-arms, immediately after their publication, one copy of the legislative documents of the senate and house, the journal of the senate and the journal of the house.

## CITY AND TOWN LIBRARIES.

SECTION 6. A city or town may establish and maintain public libraries for the use of its inhabitants, under regulations prescribed by the city council or by the town, and may receive, hold and manage any gift, bequest or devise for such library. The city council of a city or the selectmen of a town may place in such library the books, reports and laws which may be received from the commonwealth.

## TRUSTEES OF TOWN LIBRARIES.

SECTION 7. A town which raises or appropriates money for the support of a free public library, or free public library and reading room, owned by the town, shall, at an annual meeting or special meeting, unless the same has been acquired entirely or in part through some gift or bequest which contains other conditions or provisions for the election of its trustees or for its care and management which have been accepted by the town, elect by ballot a board of trustees consisting of any number of persons, male or female, divisible by three, which the town determines to elect. When such board is first chosen, one-third thereof shall be elected for one year, one-third for two years and one-third for three years, and thereafter one-third shall be elected annually for the term of three years. The board shall, from its own number, annually choose a chairman and secretary and, if the town so votes, a treasurer, who shall give a bond similar to that given by the town treasurer, in an amount and with sureties to the satisfaction of the selectmen. The town treasurer shall act as treasurer of the board of trustees until the town otherwise directs.

SECTION 8. The board shall have the custody and management of the library and reading room and of all property owned by the town relating thereto. All money raised or appropriated by the town for its support and maintenance shall be expended by the board, and all money or property which the town may receive by gift or bequest for said library and reading room shall be administered by the board in accordance with the provisions of such gift or bequest.

SECTION 9. The board shall make an annual report to the town of its receipts and expenditures and of the property in its custody, with a statement of any unexpended balance of money and of any gifts or bequests which it holds in behalf of the town, with its recommendations.

SECTION 10. The provisions of the three preceding sections shall not apply to library associations, nor to a library organized under a special act.

#### BOARD OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS.

SECTION 11. There shall be a board of free public library commissioners consisting of five persons, residents of the commonwealth, one of whom shall annually be appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, for a term of five years. The governor shall designate the chairman thereof.

SECTION 12. No member shall receive any compensation, but the board may annually expend not more than five hundred dollars, payable by the commonwealth, for clerical assistance and for other necessary expenses. It shall annually in January make a report to the general court.

SECTION 13. The board shall advise the librarian or trustees of any free public library relative to the selection or cataloguing of books and any other matter pertaining to the maintenance or administration of the library.

SECTION 14. Said board may, upon the application of the library trustees of a town which has complied with the provisions of sections sixteen and seventeen, and which has no free public library owned and controlled by the town, expend not more than one hundred dollars for books to be selected and purchased by said board and delivered to said trustees for the purpose of establishing a free public library.

SECTION 15. If a town, the valuation of which is not more than six hundred thousand dollars and which has a free public library, has complied with all laws relative to the maintenance of such library, and the trustees of the library provide, to the satisfaction of the board, for the distribution of books in different parts of the town where such distribution is necessary, by means of branch libraries or deliveries, and for practical and effective means of rendering the library useful to the teachers and scholars of the public schools in such town, the board may expend, in such amounts and at such times as they determine, not more than one hundred dollars for the purchase of books for each free public library owned and controlled by such town.

SECTION 16. A town shall not be entitled to the benefits of the three preceding sections until it accepts the same or has accepted the corresponding provisions of earlier laws and has elected a



board of library trustees as provided in section seven, nor until said trustees have made provision satisfactory to said commissioners for the care and distribution of the books furnished by them.

SECTION 17. Such town shall, if its last assessed valuation was one million dollars or over, annually appropriate from the dog tax, or otherwise provide for the use and maintenance of its free public library, not less than fifty dollars; if such valuation was less than one million dollars and not less than two hundred and fifty thousand, not less than twenty-five dollars; and if such valuation was less than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, not less than fifteen dollars.

#### APPROPRIATION OF MONEY FOR LIBRARIES, ETC.

Section 15, chapter 25 of the Revised Laws, provides that towns may appropriate money "for the establishment, maintenance or increase of a public library therein, and for the erection or provision of suitable buildings or rooms therefor."

"For maintaining a library therein to which the inhabitants have free access and of which they have the use, and for establishing and maintaining a public reading room in connection with and under the control of the managers of such library."

#### THE DOG TAX.

Section 163, chapter 102 of the Revised Laws, provides that money received for dog licenses and refunded to the towns "shall be expended for the support of public libraries or schools."

#### DEFACING OR WILFUL DETENTION OF BOOKS, PAPERS, ETC.

Sections 83 and 84, chapter 208 of the Revised Laws, provide that "whoever wilfully, intentionally and without right, or wantonly and without cause, writes upon, injures, defaces, tears or destroys a book, plate, picture, engraving, map, newspaper, magazine, pamphlet, manuscript or statue which belongs to a law, city, town or other public or incorporated library shall be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than fifty dollars or by imprisonment for not more than six months."

"Whoever wilfully, intentionally and without right, or wantonly and without cause, detains a book, newspaper, magazine, pamphlet, or manuscript which belongs to a law, city, town or other public or incorporated library for thirty days after notice in writing from the librarian thereof, containing a copy of this section

and given after the expiration of the time which, by the regulations of such library, such book, newspaper, magazine, pamphlet or manuscript may be kept, shall be punished by a fine of not less than one nor more than twenty-five dollars or by imprisonment for not more than six months."

#### DISTURBING PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Section 33, chapter 212 of the Revised Laws, provides that "whoever wilfully disturbs persons assembled in a public library, or a reading room connected therewith, by making a noise or in any other manner during the time when such library or reading room is open to the public shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than thirty days or by a fine of not more than fifty dollars."

#### LAND MAY BE TAKEN FOR LIBRARY BUILDINGS.

Section 47 of chapter 25 of the Revised Laws provides that "any land within the limits of a city or town not appropriated to public uses" may be taken "for the purpose of erecting thereon a building to be used for a public school, a library, or an engine house, or for the enlargement of a lot of land taken or used for such purpose,"—but the land thus taken may not exceed two acres in extent.

#### PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

Under provisions of chapter 9 of the Revised Laws, each town and city library is entitled to receive a copy of the Manual of the General Court, the Blue Book, and a copy of the series of public documents.

